THE NEW
INDIAN EXPRESS

BENGALURU • MONDAY • SEPTEMBER 15, 2025 • ₹9.00 • PAGES 18 • LATE CITY EDITION

US Secretary of State Marco Rubio stands on the tarmac before departing for Israel at Joint Base Andrews, Maryland, on Saturday | AP

Rubio lands in Israel in wake of Qatar attack

US Secretary of State Marco Rubio was in Israel on Sunday as its military intensified attacks on northern Gaza, flattening multiple high-rise building and killing at least 13 Palestinians. Rubio said ahead of the trip that he will be seeking answers from Israeli officials about how they see the way forward in Gaza following Israel's attack on Hamas leaders in Qatar last week that upended efforts to broker an end to the conflict.

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

The strength of the
DEMOCRACY
lies in the
BALLOT

My VOTE
My RIGHT

International Day of
DEMOCRACY
2025

GUARANTEE SARKARA
REBUILDING A NEW KARNATAKA

Dr. H.C. Mahadevappa,
Hon'ble Minister for Social Welfare,
speaking on the democratic
principles enshrined in the
Constitution of India.

District-Level Cycle Rally | State-Level Bike Rally | Democracy Radio Program | Painting Competition for School Children
₹6 crore DBT Incentives for 1,000 Meritorious KREIS PU Students | Photography Competition | Speech Competition

Social Welfare Department | Youth Empowerment and Sports Department | Urban Development Department | Backward Classes Welfare Department
Tribal Welfare Department | Minority Welfare Department | Higher Education Department | Labour Department | School Education and Literacy Department
Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department | Women and Child Welfare Department | Greater Bengaluru Authority | Bangalore Development Authority
Mysore Sales International Limited | Karnataka Milk Federation

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

BENGALURU

ALMANAC TODAY
• Monday: 15.09.2025 • Year: Vishwavasu • Ayana: Dakhsinayana
• Ritu: Varsha • Masa: Bhadrapada • Paksha: Krishna • Tithi: Ashtami 6.22 am
• Nakshatra: Mrigashira 11.36 am • Moon in Kataka Rashi • Rahukaala: 07:30 am to 09:00 am
• Gulikakala: 01:30 pm to 03:00 pm • Yamaganda: 10:30 am to 12:00 pm

WEATHER
MIN 19°C | MAX 29°C
FORECAST
Rain showers. Overcast.

Sunrise 06.08 am
Sunset 06.20 pm
Moonrise 01.01 am
Moonset 01.29 pm

02 BENGALURU MONDAY 15.09.2025 newindianexpress.com

SPEEDY EXECUTION DEMANDED

'Coordination lacking, Blue Line will suffer'

Experts cite ORR Blue Line work has been at standstill at Benniganahalli in recent times

BOSKY KHANNA @ Bengaluru

THERE should be better coordination between Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limied (BMRCL) and South Western Railways for speedy execution of work on the Outer Ring Road (ORR) Namma Metro Phase-2A Blue Line, mobility experts opined.

BMRCL sources said they have asked SWR to close the track or divert trains for four hours for four nights on the Salem line to take up the composite girder work. They have also asked SWR to reduce the speed of trains for 30 days. But there has been a delay in getting complete permission and clearance from SWR.

The 17.5 km ORR Phase-2A Blue Line will connect Silk Board to KR Puram and is part of the project connecting Central Silk Board to Baiyappanahalli. Any delay in completing the 65-metre depot stretch will have a cascading effect on the entire line, the experts said.

"Though it is the last point of the Blue Line, quick execution of work is important as trains from KR Puram have to go to the Baiyappanahalli depot. ORR Blue Line work has been at a standstill over the last month-and-a-half at Benniganahalli. Spans have been erected on either side of railway tracks. Though railway crossing girders are ready, they have not been put up," said Clement Jayakumar, Member Secretary, Mahadevapura Task Force and mobility expert.

He said the steel girder work across the Salem railway line has stopped, and this will delay the completion of the Blue Line. The Blue Line was to be ready by June 2025, but the deadline has now been extended to September 2026. The work on the rest of the tracks can be speeded up, but coordination and execution is needed, he added.

Pic for representation

Permission in phased manner

SWR Divisional Railway Manager Ashutosh Singh said permission is being given in a phased manner on proposals submitted by BMRCL.

Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limied Director-Finance S Sivamathan said temporary permission has been given and work is going on.

A senior consultant from IISc, working with the state government and seeking anonymity, said, "BMRCL and Urban Development Department do not seem to have learnt from their past experiences. The snail-paced Metro construction towards the Kempegowda International Airport is an example. The government does not seem to be interested and the suburban rail project too is not moving ahead."

DKS begins groundwork for GBA polls

DEVARAJ B HIREHALLI @ Bengaluru

DEPUTY Chief Minister and Bengaluru in-charge minister **DK Shivakumar**, who is aspiring to become Chief Minister of Karnataka, is trying to turn elections to the five corporations under the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) into a personal springboard.

With Opposition Leader in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi launching the 'vote chori' campaign from Bengaluru, alleging malpractices in the LS polls, especially in Mahadevapura assembly constituency, Shivakumar appears to have grabbed it as an opportunity to test his mettle in the polls.

Interestingly, AICC member Sunil Kanugolu, who had worked as a strategist for the party's thumping victory during the 2023 assembly polls, will be the coordinator for ministers in Bengaluru. Kanugolu's team, which has been on duty in Kerala for the assembly polls, will soon land in the GBA, according to sources.

In a strategic move, MLCs who have some hold on the constituencies have been appointed to 10 assembly constituencies, to coordinate with ministers: D Srinivas (KR Puram), Ramoji Gouda (Bommanahalli), Govindaraj (Dasarahalli), Nazir Ahmed (Chickpet), MR Seetharam(Yelahanka), Sudham Das (CV Raman Nagar), Ramesh Babu (Malleswaram), UB Venkatesh (Basavanagudi), Saleem Ahmed (Mahalakshmi Layout) and Nagaraj Yadav (Mahadevapura) and former deputy mayor L Srinivas (Padmanabha Nagar).

After a discussion with AICC general secretary in charge of Karnataka Randeep Singh Surjewala, Shivakumar has geared up for an organisational exercise. He set up a committee with his confidant and KPCC working president GC Chandrashekar and RS member as the convener, to oversee preparations and organisational works for forthcoming polls to the five corporations. His other confidant, former IYC chief BV Srinivas, is co-convener.

Party leaders in Bengaluru, including MLAs, defeated candidates in the 2024 LS polls and 2023 assembly polls, all District Congress Committee presidents and office-bearers of the party, including AICC secretaries, have been appointed members of the committee. Kanugolu is also part of the committee.

Shivakumar had spearheaded the Greater Bengaluru Governance Act 2024, and got BBMP divided into five corporations. Under Section 35 of the Act, there is a provision to go for polls using ballots instead of EVMs. The Supreme Court has given directions to complete delimitation of wards by November 1, and fix reservation by November 30, which means polls for GBA are imminent.

On surprise visit, N Corp chief finds PKs absent, lax supervisors

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

BENGALURU North City Commissioner Pommala Sunil Kumar paid a surprise visit to the mustering of pourakarmikas on Sunday morning and found that, apart from the supervisor, 15 pourakarmikas were absent.

Kumar paid a surprise visit to the BSNL Mustering Point at Bhuvanagiri Park in Banaswadi, located in the Sarvagnanagar Constituency, to inspect the attendance of pourakarmikas. He observed that the supervisor, Balaji, was absent and directed another supervisor, K Suresh Kumar, to take the attendance of the pourakarmikas present. Kumar replied that out of a total of 48 pourakarmikas, 15 were absent.

To cross-verify the absentee list, the commissioner questioned a pourakarmika and found that six of them who were present were also marked as 'absent'. When the commissioner learnt that the supervisors did not even know the names of the pourakarmikas working under their supervision, he directed the concerned authorities to take immediate action against both supervisors.

Bengaluru Central City Commissioner Rajendra Cholan (left) and other GBA staff clean a footpath in Majestic

It needed a Canadian for GBA to fix Bengaluru's crumbling footpaths

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

A viral video posted by Canadian national Caleb Friesen has sparked not just swift action from civic authorities, but also a wave of citizen appeals urging him to highlight other neglected areas in the city.

On Thursday, Caleb recorded his 30 minute, 2.4-km walk from Majestic bus stand to a coffee shop, capturing the broken, and encroached footpaths along the route. The video quickly went viral, drawing sharp attention to pedestrian woes. Within a day, the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) acted to clean and repair the stretch. By Saturday, Bengaluru Central City Commissioner Rajendra Cholan had joined volunteers in the clean-up drive and was later seen sitting and eating on the revamped pavement in a symbolic gesture.

The unusually quick response has left residents amused, but also frustrated. Many took to social media to request Caleb to continue his walks in other parts of the city, pointing out that years of citizen complaints had failed to move the authorities. A user, Suraj Clark Prasad, asked, "Can I pay you to walk on Bannerghatta Road? From 1942 Angrezo Bharat Chhodo to 2025 make white man walk around. We won't progress if civil sense is missing."

"Since you are the reason Bengaluru authorities are listening, please take a two-wheeler ride from Kundalahalli Gate to ORR via Panathur. The rest of the city might be living in 2025 but this road is medieval," wrote Piyush Prabhakar.

A few others pointed to Sarjapur Road, Outer Ring Road, and Gear School Road, where even basic footpaths are absent, urging Caleb to spotlight them too. For many Bengalureans, the episode has underscored a painful irony, while local complaints often go unheard, a foreigner's viral walk has compelled civic authorities to act overnight.

Carbon fix: One in every five BMTC buses on road is electric

ANUBHAB ROY @ Bengaluru

WITH the inclusion of new electric buses to the BMTC fleet, one in five buses operating across the city is now electric. Accordingly, BMTC plans to do away with 2,78,212 kg of carbon emissions per day soon, when the rest of the ordered e-buses come in.

Tackling pollution is a key issue behind this move by BMTC to electrify its fleet. Every bus has a shelf life, beyond which it must be scrapped; a great number of diesel buses on the road are heavy polluters, and adding new diesel buses would have made the matter worse.

"BMTC is operating 1,575 electric buses as of September 11, and reducing carbon emission of about 2,39,144 kg per day. After the complete supply of the ordered fleet, which is 1,779 electric buses (204 more e-buses), 2,78,212 kg of carbon emissions will be reduced per day (as compared to an equal number of diesel buses)," says BMTC Chief Traffic Manager (Operation) Prabhakar Reddy.

Reddy said that though all diesel buses will not be replaced by electric ones, it will still have an impact on the environment. "At present, 5,437 diesel buses are being operated. If more diesel buses are not inducted in the future, all such existing buses will have been scrapped by 2038," asserted Reddy.

However, with the number of accidents involving BMTC buses, the prospect of giant, noiseless vehicles creeping up unnoticed, certainly does not bode well. Will simulated engine noise help? Mobility expert Ashish Verma said, "It is early to say if there is any noticeable threat due to electric buses. A simple use of horns could suffice."

Black spot to beauty spot: Experts say city needs permanent waste microplan

AKNISREE KARTHIK @ Bengaluru

THE trend of drawing rangolis and putting up green nets after clearing black spots in Bengaluru is back. The clean-up and beautification initiatives targeting identified black spots in the city has seen some acceleration, but do they really help in putting an end to black spots? Experts say 'nah'.

An infamous black spot at Siddapura's Tippu Point was cleared by Bengaluru Central City Corporation on Sunday. Post the clearance, pourakarmikas drew rangolis and placed tree pots. At places where citizens tend to throw their garbage, turning it into a black spot, corporations are putting up green nets with warning signs. At empty plots and stormwater drains, which have become black spots, such green nets have been put up to prevent people from dumping garbage.

Solid waste management expert and founder of Friends of Lakes, V Ram Prasad compared the act of drawing rangolis and putting up green nets with that of a doctor treating the symptoms and not administering medicine to the root cause. "No matter how many times the black spots are cleaned up and

beautified with rangolis and green nets, they will still dot the city. One-time cleaning and beautifying isn't the solution. What the city needs is scientific microplanning for garbage collection. Each ward is divided into 750 households. Pushcarts, auto-tippers and pourakarmikas are dedicated to collecting garbage from these households, which is later transferred to the main garbage truck for waste processing," Prasad said.

Those who do not hand over garbage to the corporation must be listed and checked, he says, arguing that these are the ones who stuff their garbage into plastic covers and throw it, creating black spots. "Households which convert their wet waste into compost and hand over their dry waste to collection centres should be lauded, and those who don't must be slapped with hefty fines," said Prasad, who is closely associated with corporations in solid waste management.

Waste activist Plog Raja (Nagaraj) of The Indian Ploggers Army said rangolis and green nets are a symbol of community effort, and it's heartwarming to see people take ownership of their neighbourhoods. "We sincerely wish the community participates in such events along with the civic authorities," he said.

Daily Starscope

PETER VIDAL

15TH September: There's an extraordinary amount of hope around, in spite of everything. The end-result could take us anywhere, and the best advice is therefore to emphasise the virtues of self-discipline and self-control. Plan your day with care! That's advice we should all take, whatever our birth signs. No exceptions!

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr. 20)
You will have to make a leap of the imagination if you are to understand the way somebody else feels about a current situation, and just how undecided they really are. Tolerance must now be your most important virtue, and if you manage to see a partner's point of view, then you'll win respect.

TAURUS (Apr. 21 - May 21)
There are some profoundly favourable influences today, but they happen to be extremely subtle. It's all a matter of being very smart and alert to the slightest passing opportunity. It goes without saying that you should push yourself to the front of the queue.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)
Mars' fascinating alignments are opening opportunities and presenting you with a number of awkward choices. It would be wrong to say don't take risks but, if you do, make sure you're prepared for the outcome. Remember, if you're in control then you'll be better placed to get the best.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)
Your financial situation is undoubtedly extremely complicated, but this doesn't mean to say it's all bad. It's just that outgoings look set to exceed earnings, perhaps because old commitments are about to return to haunt you. Maybe a loved one can help.

LEO (July 24 - Aug. 23)
For some inexplicable reason the past seems to hold a greater fascination for you than the present. The most difficult choices should now be over, though, and you may even be able to get away with sticking your head in the sand! Other people might still insist that you have to face up to awkward decisions, but that doesn't mean that they're right.

VIRGO (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)
There'll be moments when a secretive mood takes you over. In love, you're still tempted to shut yourself away with romantic partners and let the world pass you by. However, do bear in mind that any secrets will be revealed soon, so keep everything above aboard.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)
The Moon is sailing gracefully through your chart today, which means that while you should be more in control of routine situations, your emotions will be heightened. You should therefore be very careful not to misunderstand perfectly innocent remarks.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)
Discretion is an absolute necessity today, but then that's something you're very good at. Professional complications have been getting you down, but you should do well out of new personal contacts. You'll soon have to decide whether to pursue a family rivalry, or call it quits for now.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 22)
It's always important to link up with like-minded people, and never more so than now. You're about to experience a change in your emotional cycle, one which is going to lower your expectations, and hence make you much easier to please! The results should be to your liking.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23 - Jan. 20)
Now is the time to redouble your efforts, complete routine tasks and get on top of everything that's been holding you back. Even an emotional mountain which once seemed impossible to scale will suddenly appear much easier to tackle. So what's changed? Perhaps it's you!

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb.19)
Take heart from all and any moral support which comes your way, and be sure to fight for your rights. It's not a matter of sticking to the letter of the law, but of trying to make other people see the spirit. It's all about the need for justice and fairness.

PISCES (Feb. 20 - Mar 20)
There's plenty f time for hard work, but any strain will be caused by the tension between former hopes and future commitments. Do yourself a favour and pay your dues to the past. It could be that the best ways are the old ways: tradition has hidden virtues!

Solutions to Saturday's puzzle ↓

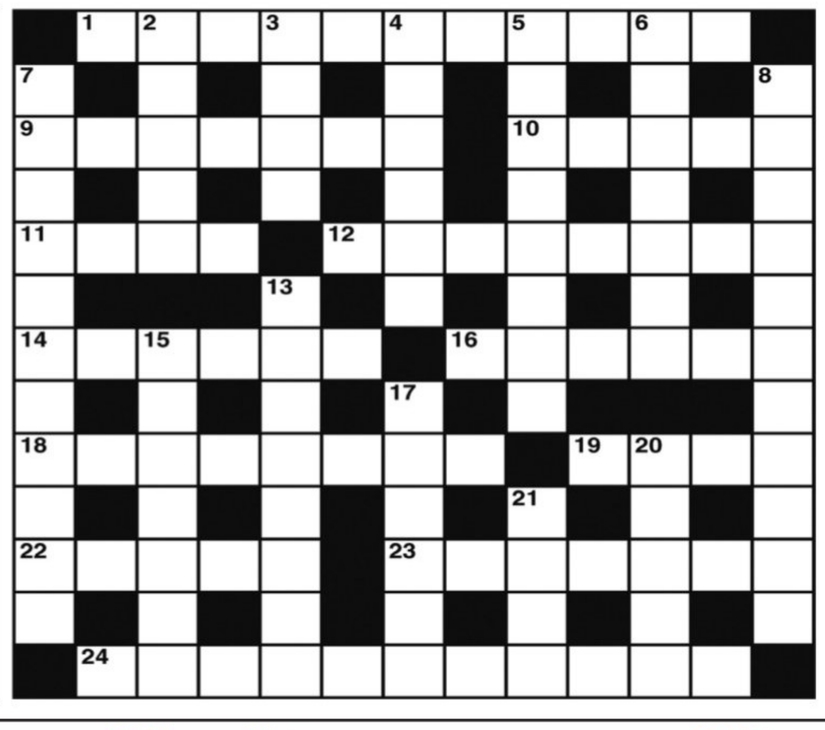
	8	2						
9			3		7	1		
		7		5	8			4
		8	6	1	2	5	4	
	2		8		9		7	
	6	9	5	7	3	8		
8			2	9		3		
		5	4		1			8
						4	5	

3	4	7	6	8	9	1	2	5
6	5	2	1	3	7	4	9	8
1	9	8	2	4	5	6	7	3
5	6	1	7	2	3	8	4	9
8	2	4	9	5	1	3	6	7
9	7	3	8	6	4	2	5	1
7	8	9	4	1	2	5	3	6
2	1	5	3	9	6	7	8	4
4	3	6	5	7	8	9	1	2

SU DO KU

TEST YOUR NUMBER CRUNCHING SKILL WITH OUR UNIQUE PUZZLE

Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3X3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.



CROSS WORD

ACROSS
1 Aside from watching (11)
9 Scrap an out-of-date golf club (3,4)
10 Hunts - with success seemingly! (5)
11 Dining room offers hash (4)
12 He may cut a fine figure (8)
14 Sudden invasion in a state of change (6)
16 Don't go out to get new points (4,2)
18 Maximum charge for conveyance (4,4)
19 As a container it can't be beaten (4)
22 Vessel designed to sink itself and others (1-4)
23 The girl turns paler (7)
24 This order won't require attention (5,2,4)

DOWN
2 Waits while one's bed is made up (5)
3 Get money for work in vessel so it's said (4)
4 The city is very nice without its railway (6)
5 Agency typist departed - it's the pattern (8)
6 Excel in public work (7)
7 From the French as it should be (5,2,4)
8 No more stars for night watchmen (11)
13 Loaded statement? (8)
15 Drop in radioactivity? (7)
17 Hilda unsettled by a bloomer (6)
20 The pay for judges? (5)
21 Illness makes the French leave the league (4)

SATURDAY'S SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Memory, 4 Implores, 9 Sanity, 10 Addendum, 12 Lilt, 13 Venal, 14 Inca, 17 Cost of living, 20 Winning score, 23 Onus, 24 Upset, 25 Reed, 28 Maintain, 29 Regale, 30 Respects, 31 At best.

Down: 1 Misplace, 2 Mona Lisa, 3 Rate, 5 Made advances, 6 Lied, 7 Riding, 8 Sampan, 11 Selling point, 15 Colic, 16 Gnash, 18 Coverage, 19 Deadbeat, 21 Former, 22 Duties, 26 Stye, 27 Beat.

JUMBLE

UNSCRAMBLE THESE JUMBLES, ONE LETTER TO EACH SQUARE, TO FORM FOUR ORDINARY WORDS.

BY DAVID L. HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

NUPDO

SEBSL

PAHNEP

UTAEDP

Hey, look! It's a doggy! "Ruff! Ruff!"
What are you thinking? Put that skull down!
Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Twitter @PlayJumble
HE DIDN'T MAKE A VERY GOOD ARCHAEOLOGIST BECAUSE HE WAS A ---

©2025 Tribune Content Agency, LLC All Rights Reserved.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: FILMY HANDY DEBATE GROUCH
Answer: With elevations over 4,000 feet, the Gobi Desert is not a place to get — LEFT HIGH AND DRY

THE NEW
INDIAN EXPRESS
BENGALURU • MONDAY • SEPTEMBER 15, 2025 • ₹9.00 • PAGES 18 • LATE CITY EDITION

INDIAN NAVY GETS ANTI-SUBMARINE WARFARE SHIP

The Indian Navy has received an indigenously-built anti-submarine warfare ship that is expected to boost its maritime prowess against the backdrop of China's growing forays into the Indian Ocean. 'Androth', the second of the eight anti-submarine warfare-shallow water craft (ASW-SWC), has been built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE), Kolkata

सत्यमेव जयते
Government of India

Viksit Bihar
Viksit Bharat

Gift of projects worth over ₹36000 Crore for the people of Bihar in Power, Railways, Airport, Housing and Urban Affairs, Jal Shakti, Rural Development, Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Dairying Sectors

Laying of Foundation Stone for

- 3x800 MW Thermal Power project at Pirpainti (Bhagalpur)
- Kosi-Mechi Intra-State River Link Project Phase-1
- New Rail Line between Bikramshila - Katareah (26 KM)
- Interception & Diversion (I&D) and Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) works at Supaul and Katihar Districts
- Water Supply Projects at Darbhanga, Katihar and Bhagalpur

Inauguration of

- Interim Terminal Building at Purnea Airport
- New Rail Line between Araria - Galgalia (Thakurganj) (111 KM)
- Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) and Interception & Diversion (I&D), Bhagalpur under Namami Gange Programme
- Indigenous Bovine Sex-Sorted Semen Production Facility at Purnea

Flagging off of

- First Commercial Flight from Purnea Airport
- Katihar-Siliguri Express via Araria - Galgalia New Rail Line
- Jogbani - Danapur Vande Bharat Express
- Saharsa - Chheharta (Amritsar) Amrit Bharat Express
- Jogbani - Erode Amrit Bharat Express

Griha Pravesh under

- Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Gramin) (35600 Beneficiaries of Bihar)
- Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban) (5920 Beneficiaries of Bihar)

Distribution of Benefits under NRLM

- Community Investment Fund (CIF) of ₹ 500 Crore to Cluster Level Federations under National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM) in Bihar and handing over of cheques to Five CLFs

Launching of

- National Makhana Board

Benefits of Projects

- Development of New Civil Enclave at Purnea Airport will address the demand of air travel in the region
- New lines and trains to boost connectivity for passenger and freight movement with efficient and affordable rail travel
- Generation of Power from new thermal power plants will ensure greater availability of power for domestic and industrial consumption
- New water supply networks will enhance sustainable water management and accelerate provision of tap water connections under Jal Jeevan Mission
- Interception & Diversion (I&D) and New Sewage Treatment Plants (STP) would reduce river pollution and support the rejuvenation of Ganga
- Under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Rural & Urban), 41,520 families will become house owners
- Bovine Sex-Sorted Semen Production Facility would lead to enhancing the dairy farmers income and reducing their economic burden
- Distribution of funds under National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) would lead to financial inclusion and empowering rural poor households / Self Help Groups
- Major boost to the Makhana production, strengthening the presence of Bihar on the global map in this sector

by

Shri Narendra Modi
Hon'ble Prime Minister

Monday, 15th September, 2025 | 03.30 PM | Purnea, Bihar

in the august presence of

Shri Arif Mohammed Khan
Governor, Bihar

Shri Nitish Kumar
Chief Minister, Bihar

Shri Manohar Lal
Union Minister of Housing & Urban Affairs; and Power

Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan
Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare; and Rural Development

Shri Rajiv Ranjan Singh alias Lalan Singh
Union Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying; and Panchayati Raj

Shri Kinjarapu Rammohan Naidu
Union Minister of Civil Aviation

Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw
Union Minister of Railways; Information & Broadcasting; and Electronics & Information Technology

Shri C.R. Patil
Union Minister of Jal Shakti

Shri Samrat Choudhary
Deputy Chief Minister, Bihar

Shri Vijay Kumar Sinha
Deputy Chief Minister, Bihar

Shri Rajesh Ranjan
Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha)

Shri Vijay Kumar Khemka
Member of Legislative Assembly, Purnea

CBC 03111/15/0011/2526

DD NEWS Watch the Programme Live on DD News

A 22-year-old youth died and his friend sustained injuries when their motorcycle collided with a sambar deer near Tarekodlu in Shankaranarayana police station limits, Udupi, on Saturday. The deceased has been identified as Shreyas (22) of Kundapur, while the injured is his friend Vignesh (19), a resident of Kavradi village. According to sources, the impact from the deer was such that the bike was completely damaged. The deer also perished on the spot

Bengaluru sees steady rise in immoral trafficking

Police attribute rise in numbers to stricter enforcement and raids

RAKSHITH GOWDA @Bengaluru

BENGALURU has seen a steady rise in cases registered under the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act (ITPA) — from 96 in 2019 to 176 in 2024, with 122 already registered till August this year. Senior police officers attribute this rise to stricter enforcement, though challenges persist on online platforms.

According to city police data, 98 cases were registered in 2019, 136 in 2020, 129 in 2021, 155 in 2022, 180 in 2023, 176 in 2024, and 122 till August this year.

A senior police officer explained that while a woman, in her individual capacity, charges money from a man to have sex is not a crime under the Act, running it an organised way, such as running a brothel, trafficking individuals for prostitution, or soliciting in public is illegal.

With evolving technology, trafficking and exploitation rackets have shifted from physical spaces to online platforms to evade detection. Escort services and sexual exploitation rackets now operate through social media channels, where traffickers and pimps connect with clients anonymously. "Earlier, such operations were carried out in massage parlours, spas, pubs, and lodges, but these have declined in the city due to police raids and increased public awareness," the officer said.

WORRYING NUMBERS

YEAR	CASES
2019	96
2020	136
2021	129
2022	155
2023	160
2024	176
2025	122 (Till Aug)

He added that most victims are from other states and are lured with promises of jobs before being pushed into prostitution. Recent raids in the city also rescued Bangladeshi victims under Hulimavu police station limits, who had been trafficked into prostitution by fake job offer, who later approached the police.

A Central Crime Branch (CCB) officer said that foreign nationals, especially women from African countries as well as from North and Northeast India, are now increasingly involved in the racket. They themselves solicit clients through social media and conduct business in serviced apartments and private homes, the officer said. Tracking the accused, who operate online is a challenge, as they use encrypted messaging applications and constantly changing their number and profiles. While raiding on brothels are easier, online prostitution rackets are far more difficult to crack, the officer added.

He further explained that rescued women are usually sent to rehabilitation centres, but many of them return to the flesh trade as counselling centres are not very active and skill development programmes to help them earn a livelihood remain inadequate from the government's side.

"Based on the information received, we conduct raids and rescue the victims, collects details from them about the network to break the chain. However, once they are released, they get back to the business by changing phone numbers and locations," another officer said.

PARENTING TIME

A cormorant feeds its juveniles in their nest at Sankey Tank, Bengaluru on Sunday | KEVIN NASHON

Techie, mechanic killed in separate accidents

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

TWO men, including a software engineer, died in separate road accidents in the city on Saturday night. In the first incident, a 26-year-old software engineer, Swaroop, a resident of Paparedy Palya, died after he lost control of his speeding two-wheeler and rammed a road divider near Jnanabharathi junction around 11.45 pm.

According to Jnanabharathi traffic police, Swaroop was heading home after work when he failed to notice a road hump, lost control and hit the divider. Passersby rushed him to a nearby hospital, but he succumbed to his injuries. In another accident near Chikkabanavara Main Road around 11.30 pm, 28-year-old car mechanic Nibin Jacob died, and his friend sustained minor injuries after their speeding bike skidded. Police said Jacob, who was riding the bike, lost control and fell onto the road, suffering severe head injuries after hitting the footpath. Both were rushed to a hospital, where Jacob was declared dead. The Chikkabanavara traffic police have registered a case.

Family in debt attempts suicide, mom survives

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

A DEBT-ridden family of four, including two children, attempted suicide near Gonakanahalli village in Hoskote police station limits on Saturday evening. Three died, while the mother survived.

The deceased have been identified as Shivu (32), his daughter Chandrakala (11) and son Uday Surya (7), all of whom were studying in a government school. Shivu's wife, Manjula (28,) survived the attempt and is undergoing treatment at the Hoskote Government Hospital.

According to police, the couple had borrowed heavily to meet Shivu's medical expenses after he was injured in a road accident. With mounting debts and Shivu's addiction to alcohol, the couple allegedly decided to end their lives around 5.30 pm on Saturday.

Fearing that the children would be left alone, Shivu and Manjula first strangled the two children with a dupatta. Shivu then hanged himself in the room. Manjula also attempted to hang herself, but the rope snapped and she survived. She subsequently alerted her family members, after which the villagers informed the police. The Hoskote police have registered a murder case against Manjula.

Helplines:

If you are having suicidal thoughts, or are worried about a friend or need emotional support, help is available. Call Sneha Foundation – 044-24640050, Tele Manas – 14416 (available 24x7) or the Tata Institute of Social Sciences helpline – 022-25521111 (Monday to Saturday, 8 am to 10 pm).

Walkathon held for women of STEM at Cubbon Park

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

NGO Child Rights and You (CRY) held a walkathon, "CRY Walk to EmpowHER", on Sunday. Over 1,400 people gathered at Cubbon Park for the event in order to raise awareness on the difficulties faced by women in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM). The walkathon featured participation from students, professionals, volunteers, social workers, and more. The event held equal opportunity as a key necessity in national progress, while the unfair discrimination faced by women in STEM fields was cited as a key hindrance to the same.

Actor Tara Anuradha with volunteers during STEM awareness walkathon at Bal Bhavan in Bengaluru | EXPRESS

The stories of Pallavi and Lakshmi, two women who braved these challenges, was a key motivator in the walkathon. According to a release shared by CRY, "They urged the setting up of STEM labs at rural government schools to further strengthen girls' enthusiasm for science and technology."

"Far too often, girls are told it's okay to be weak in maths or science, and families push them into 'safer' careers. We must shed these stereotypes so that girls believe in their scientific abilities and stand equal to boys. Our future depends on half the nation not being left behind," CRY Chief Executive Officer Puja Marwaha said.

CRIME PATROL

Woman accuses in-laws of sexual harassment

Bengaluru: A 24-year-old woman has filed a complaint with the Suddaguntepalya police accusing her mother-in-law and stepfather-in-law of sexual harassment. The complainant alleged that her in-laws Humera Banu and her second husband, Akbar Pasha, had been harassing her since she married their son. According to her complaint, as Banu and Akbar opposed the marriage, the couple married on July 16. She said Banu allegedly sent her a voice note asking her to sleep with Akbar Pasha. Banu also allegedly urged her to have sexual relations with other men in their area. The woman further accused the duo of mentally harassing her by saying they would "party" if she and her husband died.

Construction worker dies three days after assault

Bengaluru: A 25-year-old construction worker died three days after he was allegedly assaulted for objecting to abusive language. The incident occurred on September 7. The deceased, Bhim Kumar, was a resident of Mico Layout and a native of Bihar. According to the police, Salman, a stranger, allegedly abused Kumar and his friends while they were eating pani puri in Arekere over a trivial issue. When Kumar questioned him, a heated argument broke out. Later, as Kumar and his friend Dheeraj were heading home, Salman followed them, punched Dheeraj in the face, and struck Kumar on the neck. Dheeraj rushed him home, where he remained semi-conscious for two days. He was later taken to a hospital, but on September 10, he succumbed to his injuries.

JANA SMALL FINANCE BANK (A Scheduled Commercial Bank) | Registered Office: The Fairway, Ground & First Floor, Survey No.10/1, 11/2 & 12/2B, Off Domlur, Koramangla Inner Ring Road, Next to EGL Business Park, Challaghatta, Bangalore-560071.

DEMAND NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13(2) OF SARFAESI ACT, 2002.

Whereas you the below mentioned Borrower's, Co-Borrower's, Guarantor's and Mortgagors have availed loans from **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited,** by mortgaging your immovable properties. Consequent to default committed by you all, your loan account has been classified as **Non-performing Asset,** whereas **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** being a secured creditor under the Act, and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(2) of the said Act read with rule 2 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued **Demand notice** calling upon the Borrower's/ Co-Borrower's/ Guarantor's/ Mortgagors as mentioned in column No.2 to repay the amount mentioned in the notices with future interest thereon within **60 days** from the date of notice, but the notices could not be served on some of them for various reasons.

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ Mortgagor	Loan Account No. & Loan Amount	Details of the Security to be enforced	Date of NPA & Demand Notice date	Amount Due in Rs. / as on
1	1) Mr. Venkateshappa 2) Mrs. Rathnamma	Loan Account No. 46450530000180 Loan Amount: Rs.5,00,000/-	**Mortgaged Immovable Property:** All the piece and parcel of the property bearing No: 58/49, Situated at Hulkur Village, Comes within the purview of Araleri Grama Panchayath, Malur Taluk and Bangalore Rural District measuring East-West 35 feet, North-South 37 feet, totally measuring 1295 Sq feet and on: **East by:** Pillappa munneppa, **West by:** Junjappa, **North by:** Dodda byatappa, **South by:** Road	Date of NPA: 11-06-2025 Demand Notice Date: 31.07.2025	Rs.4,69,979.02 (Rupees Four Lakhs Sixty Nine Thousand Nine Hundred Seventy Nine and Two Paisa Only) due as on 25-07-2025
2	1) Mr. Shivarudra R 2) Mr. Rajanna 3) Mr. Veena S	Loan Account No. 47059630001443 Loan Amount: Rs.5,00,000/-	**Mortgaged Immovable Property:** All that piece and parcel for Property Khaneshumari 101/101, measuring East to West 10.6579 meter and North to South 13.7159 meters, Situated at Thipuru Village and Dhakle, Herandyapanahalli Grama Panchayath, Kodihalli Hobli, Kanakapura Taluk, Ramanagara District and bounded on: **East by:** Pathway Road, **West by:** House belongs to Chotappa, **North by:** Panchayath Road, **South by:** House belongs to Kenchappa.	Date of NPA: 02-07-2025 Demand Notice Date: 24.07.2025	Rs.3,76,805.13 (Rupees Three Lakh Seventy Six Thousand Eight Hundred Five and Thirteen Paisa Only) due as on 17-07-2025
3	1)Mr. Venkatesh 2) Mrs. D M Anitha	Loan Account No. 46459610000062 46459410001331 Loan Amount: Rs.4,00,000/- Rs. 5,00,000/-	**Mortgaged Immovable Property:** All the piece and parcel of the Property bearing No.86/12, Situated at Mothakadahalli Village, Nandagudi Hobli, Hoskote Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, Presently comes under the limits of Shivanapura Gram Panchayath, and bounded by the: **East by:** House of Akkayyamma, **West by:** Road, **North by:** Road, **South by:** House of Sujendra. Measuring 30ft x 40 feet. Total 1200 Sq.ft.	Date of NPA: 11-06-2025 Demand Notice Date: 24.07.2025	Rs.7,83,447.02 (Rupees Seven Lakh Eighty Three Thousand Four Hundred Forty Seven and Two Paisa Only) due as on 17-07-2025
4	1) Mr. Krishna M 2) Mr. Muniregowda	Loan Account No. 47059630000325 47049360000661 Loan Amount: Rs.5,00,000/- Rs. 64,000/-	**Mortgaged Immovable Property:** All that Piece and parcel of the for property E Khatha No.152900203800200081, Khaneshumari No.79/64/43, Measuring East to West (8+7.20)/2 meter and North to South (43.00+44.00)/2 meter, Situated at Tippuru Village, Herindyapanahalli Gram Panchayath, Kanakapura Block, Ramanagara District and bounded on: **East:** Property belongs to Munimaregowda, **West:** Property belongs to Shivanna, **North:** Remaining portion of Muniregowda, **South:** Road	Date of NPA: 11-06-2025 Demand Notice Date: 31.07.2025	Rs.3,34,569.10 (Rupees Three Lakh Thirty Four Thousand Five Hundred Sixty Nine and Ten Paisa Only) due as on 25-07-2025
5	1)Mr. Jayalakshmi R 2)Mr. Kiran R 3)Mr. Gayathri 4)Mr.Gurappa	Loan Account No. 32509630000461 32569170006477 Loan Amount: Rs.5,00,000/- Rs.50,000/-	**Mortgaged Immovable Property:** All the piece and parcel of the of the property bearing No. 9, Katha No. 9/9, situated at Hullahalli, Village, Jigani Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore District and bounded by the: **East By:** House of Venkataswamy, **West By:** House of Krishnappa, **North By:** Road, **South By:** House of Tayamma and Ramappa. Measuring East to West: 22 Feet. North to South: 32 Feet, In all Measuring 704 Sq. Feet.	Date of NPA: 11-06-2025 Demand Notice Date: 31.07.2025	Rs.4,34,574.15 (Rupees Four Lakh Thirty Four Thousand Five Hundred Seventy Four and Fifteen Paisa Only) due as on 25-07-2025
6	1) Mr.Nagendra Rao 2) Mrs. Bhavya P	Loan Account No. 47469430001822, 47469430001200, 47469410000651 47469410001319 Loan Amount: Rs.5,00,000/- Rs.4,92,995/- Rs.2,48,000/- Rs.75,000/-	**Mortgaged Immovable Property: Schedule Property:** All that piece and parcel of immovable property Converted for residential purpose vide conversion order No. ALN (S) SR: 56/89-90 dated 17.01.1990 issued by Deputy Commissioner Bangalore District, Bangalore, bearing Sy.No.124/1B (old Sy.No.724), Situated at Arishina Kunte village, Kasaba hobli, Nelamangala Taluk, Bangalore District, Bangalore, admeasuring 3 acres 70 guntas, out of which measuring 38016 Sq. feet or 3535 Sq. mtrs covered by Block No. B. All That proportionate undivided share of land admeasuring 246.325 sq. feet or 22.86 Sq. Metrs. For the flat in Janapriya 1st Avenue vide Katha No.755, are bounded as follows. **East by:** Land Belongs to Sri Gangaraju, **West by:** Road, **North by:** Road, **South by:** Binnamangala tank bund. **Schedule 'B' Property:** All that super Built up area 835 Sq. feet (inclusive of common service area and balcony area) of semi-finished. Flat No.B6-G1 in Ground Floor in Block No. B in Janapriya 1st Avenue out of Schedule-B Property in sy.No.124/18 (old Sy.No.124), Situated at Arishina Kunte village, Kasaba Hobli, Nelamangala Taluk, Bangalore District, Bangalore vide Katha No.755, issued by Arshina Kunte Village Panchayath, and bounded as follows. **East by:** Passage for Staircase and lift, **West by:** Flat No.B5-G2, **North by:** Space for parking, **South by:** Space for Parking	Date of NPA: 02-07-2025 Demand Notice Date: 24.07.2025	Rs.7,61,522.25 (Rupees Seven Lakh Sixty One Thousand Five Hundred Twenty Two And Twenty Five Paisa Only) due as on 11-06-2025
7	1) Mr. Selvaraj S 2) Mrs. Swarna	Loan Account No. 31879630000377 33878190039472 Loan Amount: Rs.5,00,000/- Rs.50,000/-	**Mortgaged Immovable Property:** All that piece and for property bearing Municipal No.249, PID No.10-75-249, measuring East to West 7.50 meter and North to South 4.6 meter totally measuring 34.5 sq. meter situated at Gowthamanagara Slum, previously Bangalore Yeshwanthapura layout, presently within the limits of BBMP Ward No.10, and bounded on: **East by:** Road, **West by:** site No.248, **North by:** Water Tank (C.A), **South by:** Galli Road	Date of NPA: 11-06-2025 Demand Notice Date: 31.07.2025	Rs.2,48,193/- (Rupees Two Lakh Forty Eight Thousand One Hundred Ninety Three Only) due as on 25-07-2025
8	1) Mr. Sridhar S 2) Mrs. Gowramma	Loan Account No. 31870430000040 31879170059019 Loan Amount: Rs.5,00,000/- Rs. 1,00,000/-	**Mortgaged Immovable Property:** All the piece and parcel of the immovable residential property bearing Gramatana khata /khaneshumari No. 49 situated at Harokyathanahalli Village Hobli Dasanapura, Bangalore North Taluk presently comes under the Limit of Adakamaranahalli Village panchayat Bounded on: **East by:** Road, **West by:** property belongs to Siddalingappa, **North by:** property belongs to Basavaraju, **South by:** Property belongs to marappa, Measuring East to west 20 feet and North to South 50 feet, in all measuring 1,000 sq. Feet.	Date of NPA: 11-06-2025 Demand Notice Date: 31.07.2025	Rs.4,35,730.27 (Rupees Four Lakh Thirty Five Thousand Seven Hundred Thirty and Twenty Seven Paisa Only) due as on 25-07-2025
9	1) Mr. Bhagyalakshmi Prop. Deepam PG 2) Mrs. Galamma J	Loan Account No. 33639410000383 33639440000225 31879170066294 Loan Amount: Rs.5,00,000/- Rs.5,00,000/- Rs.1,00,000/-	**Mortgaged Immovable Property:** All that piece and parcel of the property bearing site No.04, Assessment No.90 Measuring East to West 35 Ft. and North to south 37 ft total measuring 1,295 Sq.ft. Situated at Kammasandra Village, Dasanapura Hobli, Bengaluru North Taluk, and Bounded on: **East by:** House belongs to Hanumanarasaiah, **West by:** Road, **North by:** Lakshmana, Lalithamma, and Hanuma Narasaiah's Place, **South by:** House belongs to Raghu	Date of NPA: 11-06-2025 Demand Notice Date: 31.07.2025	Rs.5,50,315.54 (Rupees Five Lakh Fifty Thousand Three Hundred Fifteen-and Fifty Four Paisa Only) due as on 25-07-2025

Notice is therefore given to the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor & Mortgagor as mentioned in Column No.2, calling upon them to make payment of the aggregate amount as shown in column No.6, against all the respective Borrower/ Co-Borrower within **60 days** of Publication of this notice as the said amount is found payable in relation to the respective loan account as on the date shown in Column No. 6. It is made clear that if the aggregate amount together with future interest and other amounts which may become payable till the date of payment, is not paid, **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** shall be constrained to take appropriate action for enforcement of security interest upon properties as described in Column No.4. Please note that this publication is made without prejudice to such rights and remedies as are available to **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** against the Borrower's/ Co-Borrower's/ Guarantor's/ Mortgagors of the said financials under the law, you are further requested to note that as per section 13(13) of the said act, you are restrained/ prohibited from disposing of or dealing with the above security or transferring by way of sale, lease or otherwise of the secured asset without prior consent of Secured Creditor.

Date: 15.09.2025, Place: Bangalore, Bangalore Rural — Sd/- Authorised Officer, For Jana Small Finance Bank Limited

YOUR GUIDE TO THE WORLD

GLOBAL EXPRESS

Expert opinions | In-depth analysis
Comprehensive coverage

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS GROUP

NEPAL AT CROSSROADS: CONSTITUTION, CRISIS & REBIRTH

Scan to watch

DECODED BY

NEENA GOPAL

IN CONVERSATION WITH EXPERTS

SUBSCRIBE NOW TO STAY UPDATED

ORDNANCE FACTORY BADMAL
A UNIT OF MUNITIONS INDIA LIMITED
A GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ENTERPRISE
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
BADMAL, BALANGIR - 767070, ODISHA

NOTICE INVITING EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (NIEOI) (Stage - 1)

NIEOI No. 3350/OFBL/EOI/HWP&TNT FILLING/EO (P&M) Date : 15.09.2025

The Chief General Manager, Ordnance Factory Badmal, Balangir, Odisha invites Expression of Interest (EOI) from reputed Indian Firms for providing the following plants at OF Badmal (OFBL).

Sl. No.	Reference No.	Name of Plant / Machine
1	No:7002/ P & M /EOI/U-10/ HWP/ 2025-26, Date :08.08.2025 (ANNEXURE -A)	Hot Water Plants (03 nos) (Scope of Work attached as Annexure)
2	No : 7002 / U-10 / P & M / Filling Date : 08.08.2025 (ANNEXURE - B)	Automation of filling of molten TNT in Moulds / Mines

Contract shall be awarded through Two Stage Process :
Stage 1 : Expression Interest (EOI) Stage
Stage 2 : Tender Enquiry (TE) Stage
Tender documents will be issued in Stage - 2 for each Plant separately to the shortlisted companies who participate and qualify in the EOI (Stage - 1). Separate contracts will be signed with successful bidders for each plant.
Interested parties are requested to submit their EOI in the prescribed format **(Annexure C)** along with all supporting documents / credentials.
For detailed information, please see Annexure - A, B & C which are displayed in CPPP website, GeM Portal and Munitions India Limited web site (http://munitionsindia.in/downloads/TE Enquiry) or send email to "eoofbol@ord.gov.in" of Contact Person mentioned below for obtaining Annexures at least 15 days before the last date of submission of EOI.
Last date of submission of EOI up to 20 days from the date of publishing of short advertisement EOI.

Sd/-
Sr. Manager
For Chief General Manager

Address for Communication	Contact Person (for any queries)
Chief General Manager, Ordnance Factory Badmal, Balangir, Odisha	**Name :** Shri Dibyajyoti Sethi **Designation :** Sr. Manager **Telephone No :** 06655-25-2026, 2088,2031 **E-mail ID :** eoofbol@ord.gov.in

All the news. In just a click. Log to www.newindianexpress.com | THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS | /thenewindianxpress @newindianxpress +The New Indian Express | Google Play App Store

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

BENGALURU • MONDAY • SEPTEMBER 15, 2025 • ₹9.00 • PAGES 18 • LATE CITY EDITION

CHENNAI ▪ MADURAI ▪ VIJAYAWADA ▪ BENGALURU ▪ KOCHI ▪ HYDERABAD ▪ VISAKHAPATNAM ▪ COIMBATORE ▪ KOZHIKODE ▪ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM ▪ BELAGAVI ▪ BHUBANESWAR ▪ SHIVAMOGGA ▪ MANGALURU ▪ TIRUPATI ▪ TIRUCHY ▪ TIRUNELVELI ▪ SAMBALPUR ▪ HUBBALLI ▪ DHARMAPURI ▪ KOTTAYAM ▪ KANNUR ▪ VILLUPURAM ▪ KOLLAM ▪ TADEPALLIGUDEM ▪ NAGAPATTINAM ▪ THRISSUR ▪ KALABURAGI

Nepal PM: Those behind arson will be booked

Nepal PM Sushila Karki on Sunday said those involved in violence during the anti-government protests last week will be brought to justice. Karki, 73, who assumed office at the newly-built Home Ministry building at Singhdurbar Secretariat in Kathmandu, also announced that those killed during the 'Gen Z' protest will be declared 'martyrs'. She said arson during the protests was 'pre-planned' | P11

'Demography Mission' to thwart infiltrators: PM

PRASANTA MAZUMDAR @ Guwahati

PM Narendra Modi and Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma wave to the crowd during the inauguration of development works in Darrang, Assam, on Sunday | PTI

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday said the Union government is in the process of launching a 'Demography Mission' to "thwart a conspiracy aimed at altering the demography of India's border areas through infiltration."

"A conspiracy is at work to change the demography of border areas (near Bangladesh) with the help of infiltrators. This poses a grave threat to national security. That's why a nationwide Demography Mission is being launched," Modi said at a rally at Mangaldoi in Assam's Darrang district.

He said the BJP government's goal is to save the people of the country from infiltrators and get rid of them. The PM asserted that India was emerging as one of the world's fastest-growing economies, and said that Assam's growth rate was 13 per cent. "This was achieved due to the efforts of the double-engine government. The Centre and the state government are developing Assam as a health hub. The Northeast has a big role to play in achieving the 'Viksit Bharat' dream," the PM said.

Accusing the Congress of shielding and protecting infiltrators, PM Modi said, "Write it down. I will see how much strength you use to protect infiltrators and how we put our lives on the line to remove them. Let there be a contest. Those protecting the infiltrators will suffer."

Commending Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma for driving back infiltrators, Modi said, "Under Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma, lakhs of bighas of land, grabbed by infiltrators, have been taken back. In Darrang, land in Gorukhuti was under the grip of infiltrators. The encroachment has been cleared."

The PM accused Congress of siding with terrorists groomed by Pakistan instead of supporting the Indian Army. "During 'Operation Sindoor', the Congress, instead of supporting our armed forces, which destroyed the terrorist infrastructure in Pakistan, was engaged in protecting infiltrators and anti-national forces," PM Modi alleged.

RJD threatens to go it alone, contest all 243 seats

RAMASHANKAR @ Patna

AMID the ongoing seat-sharing talks within the Opposition INDIA bloc for the upcoming Bihar assembly elections, RJD leader Tejashwi Prasad Yadav sparked controversy by declaring that his party would contest all 243 seats.

Addressing a gathering in Muzaffarpur late on Saturday evening, Tejashwi said, "We will return. Understand this, You all have to stay united, and this time, Tejashwi will contest elections on 243 seats. Whether it is Kanti, Muzaffarpur, or Gaighat, Tejashwi will contest elections from every place."

"This government, which has been in power for 20 years, which works to spread communal violence, has to be ousted," he said.

Tejashwi's remarks are being seen in political circles as a pressure tactic at a time when seat sharing talks within INDIA bloc are stuck. However, RJD spokesperson Mritunjay Tiwari downplayed Tejashwi's remarks, and said he meant to say that elections would be contested under his (Tejashwi's) leadership. "So, he will contest all seats."

Tejashwi's remarks would not impact the alliance as INDIA bloc candidates would be fielded on all 243 seats and election would be fought under Tejashwi's leadership. "It should not be read beyond that," Tiwari said, adding that INDIA bloc was intact.

Seat sharing negotiations in INDIA bloc have got trickier with the possible entry of Jharkhand chief minister Hemant Soren's JMM and former union minister Pashupati Paras's Rashtriya Lok Janshakti Party (RLJP).

Launching a blistering attack on the state's NDA government, Tejashwi at the workers' event said that businessmen were being kidnapped and killed daily in the state, and corruption had reached its peak, with the poor being exploited from local police stations to the state headquarters.

#JustOneApp
pnb
SERVING
THOSE WHO SERVE
THE NATION
with
PNB RAKSHAK SCHEME
Free Term Insurance upto ₹5 Lakh
Free Personal Accidental Insurance upto ₹100 Lakh
Sweep in sweep out facility available to earn FD interest on saving fund
Interest rate concession in Car, Home, Education & Personal Loan
Scan here to know more
Follow us: www.pnb.bank.in | Toll Free: 1800-1800 & 1800-2021 | Give a missed call 1800 180 8888
पंजाब नैशनल बैंक ...भरोसे का प्रतीक !
punjab national bank ...the name you can BANK upon !

ASIA CUP: SKY AND CO OVERPOWER PAKISTAN

SPINNERS KULDEEP YADAV AND AXAR PATEL SHINE BEFORE SURYAKUMAR YADAV GUIDES INDIA HOME WITH SEVEN WICKETS IN HAND. A LOOK...

Spinner Kuldeep Yadav celebrates a wicket with his teammates during the Asia Cup clash against Pakistan. He took three wickets, restricting Pakistan to 127/9 in 20 overs. In reply, skipper Suryakumar Yadav's unbeaten 47 from 37 balls set up the seven-wicket win for the Men in Blue | AFP | P13

Amoeba transmission mode in Kerala stumps health experts

POOJA NAIR @ Kozhikode

KERALA is witnessing an alarming spike in amoebic meningoencephalitis infections, but uncertainty over the exact mode of transmission baffles health experts. The rare and often fatal infection, caused by the Naegleria fowleri amoeba that attacks the brain, has so far claimed 17 lives this year in the state.

The infection affects only those who had bathed or swum in ponds, lakes, or pools, where water could enter the nose and allow the amoeba to reach the brain.

A three-month-old infant with no exposure to ponds or rivers, and a Class IV school student who only bathed at home are among the recent victims.

On August 13, Anaya (9) from Kozhikode returned home after dance practice for Independence Day. By night, she developed fever and started vomiting. The next day, she was rushed to the Kozhikode Medical College Hospital but could not be saved.

In the baby's case, tests found the amoeba in the family well. Officials are chlorinating the well every three days.

EXPRESS READ

Four arrested for selling newborn in Ballari

BALLARI: Four people were booked after a newborn was sold from the Ballari Institute of Medical Sciences (BIMS) hospital. A 65-year-old along with three others sold a baby boy for Rs 1.5 lakh | P7

5.8 earthquake strikes Northeast, West Bengal

GUWAHATI: An earthquake of 5.8 magnitude struck the Northeast and adjoining West Bengal on Sunday evening, followed by three aftershocks, leaving at least two injured | P10

Bangalore Development Authority
Sri Siddaramaiah
Hon'ble Chief Minister
Sri D.K. Shivakumar
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister
My VOTE My RIGHT
INTERNATIONAL
DEMOCRACY DAY
15th September 2025
Sri N.A. Haris, MLA, Shantinagar Assembly Constituency & Chairman, BDA, addressing a meeting on development of Bengaluru City.
As is enshrined in our Constitution, to value and preserve the rich heritage of our composite culture is the fundamental duty of every citizen of the country.
To get relief from any grievances related to BDA call
94831 66622
Bangalore Development Authority
T. Chowdaiah Road, Kumara Park West, Bengaluru - 560 020

On the Asia Cup cricket match between India and Pakistan, MP Basavaraj Bommai said the Pahalgam massacre, Operation Sindoor, and Pakistan's statements about India should be taken into account and it would have been better if the match was not conducted. "Sports is important, but the country and sentiments of people are far more important. BCCI has not taken a decision in accordance with the sentiments of the nation's people," he said

'GUARANTEES LEAD TO DEVPT, STATE ECONOMY IS ROBUST'

EXPRESS Dialogues

THE State Government has so far spent close to Rs 1 lakh crore on five guarantee schemes. They will not be stopped under the Congress government and it is for subsequent governments to decide whether to implement them or not, said **HM Revanna**, Chairman, Guarantee Implementation Committee. In conversation with *The New Indian Express*, Revanna said the guarantee schemes have not impacted development, and 98 per cent of the people are happy.

What are the challenges in implementing the guarantee schemes?
There is a system in place to implement the schemes. I head the state-level committee and with me are five vice-chairmen. There are also 31 district presidents, five vice-presidents and other members, and five departments are involved. The Congress government has implemented such schemes whenever it's come to power. When Indira Gandhi was Prime Minister, a 20-point programme was successfully implemented in Karnataka during Devaraja Urs' time. Some of these which continue even today include pension for widows, the physically challenged and senior citizens. After Siddaramaiah became CM, the government implemented 165 schemes/programmes announced in our election manifesto. He introduced many bhagyas, including Anna Bhagya, Shaadi Bhagya, Shoe Bhagya and Ksheera Bhagya. He also waived off loans of the poor and started Indira Canteens. In June 2023, we initiated the Shakthi scheme, which has now entered the Golden Book of Records as more than 500 crore women have travelled since the scheme started. It empowers women. So far, the state government has spent close to Rs 1 lakh crore on all five schemes. Many people praise the schemes. Even the Dharmasthala Dharmadhikari lauded them, and said if there was no Anna Bhagya, many people would have suffered. Eminent economists have approved the guarantee scheme for women. On an average, each family gains Rs 5,000-6,000 per month from all the schemes.

How do you respond to criticism?
The BJP plays with people's sentiments and we strive to provide a meaningful life to people. When money is rotated, employment opportunities are created, and GST collection happens. Karnataka tops the list in per capita income in the entire country, which could also be attributed to these schemes. Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra started such schemes after we did, under different names. They have been announced in Bihar too. Karnataka has not received the announced amount in the 15th Finance Commission, nor is it getting its due share of GST either. The Central government had assured us of funds for the Upper Bhadra Project, which is still pending. Despite all this, Karnataka is number one. Moreover, the common man is leading a peaceful life.

How many BPL cards will be removed?
There are certain yardsticks to give BPL cards. People filing income tax or those who have certain acreage of land are not eligible. Around 13.65 lakh ineligible BPL card holders have been identified. The Central government has also written to us to reduce the number of cards. The CM has given instructions to give cards only to the deserving. Since it's a Central government order, it has to be done and is under process.

Hasn't the guarantee implementation committee created dissatisfaction among MLAs?
Some MLAs may feel sidelined, but why didn't they themselves initiate such schemes earlier? Very few impactful programmes have been introduced. Yediyurappa once promised farmer-centric budgets, but distributing sarees and bicycles had little effect. Our schemes ensure benefits without bias and MLAs are involved locally as taluk committee presidents.

Why do we need guarantee implementation committees when there is government machinery, and ministers to supervise implementation of the schemes?
After the schemes were announced, coordination was needed across five ministries. We streamlined committees, ensured remuneration for posts and released extra funds. Now, programmes, seminars and training camps at the district and taluk levels are running with better coordination. The intent of the committees is coordination. Senior ministers and additional chief secretaries are also involved. I am not a permanent man here; tomorrow I may be replaced.

When implementation is the state government's responsibility, isn't employing party workers with public funds blurring the line between party and government?
This was also raised in the Legislative Assembly and answered by the CM. Committees are not new -- Bagair Hukum, Ashraya and others function similarly. Every government sets up committees with MLAs or their nominees and local people to implement programmes.

According to the CAG report, capital expenditure has reduced by Rs 5,229 crore due to guarantees...
The function of the CAG is to ensure there is no financial misuse and that schemes are implemented properly. If funds are misused, they have the right to comment. Government money, taxpayers' money, must not be misused, that's what auditing is about.

Do you say the CAG report on guarantee schemes is wrong?
Yes, I believe it is not only incorrect, but also reflects unfair treatment and financial oversight. While many other committees could have been examined, this particular focus on guarantees seems targeted because it is a popular programme. The purpose of these programmes is to help people live peacefully. When spending large amounts like Rs 1 lakh crore, it's necessary to allocate thousands of crores for guarantees. It is improper to criticize this allocation without understanding its intent.

People say the guarantees are burdening others and taxpayers...
Who exactly is raising these concerns? When BJP was in power, the budget was about Rs 2lakh crore; now it is Rs 4lakh crore. While some people in cities discuss rate hikes, farmers face different realities. People willingly spend Rs 20 on bottled water. Milk price in Karnataka is the lowest compared to other states; 98 per cent of people are happy with the development.

Aren't developmental works impacted due to the guarantees?
Spending Rs 52,000crore on guarantees is nothing but development work. Despite the development, some people fail to see it. In Mysuru, works worth Rs 1,700 crore have started. In Vijayapura, irrigation projects are happening. In Magadi, Rs 400 crore worth of works are initiated. They are condemning the programmes just for the sake of criticism.

MLAs complained to the high command that guarantees choked their funds...
This is a lie. Funds were given and continue to be given. First, we have to generate financial resources and then give funds to MLAs for development, what is wrong with it? BJP MLAs and MPs know Karnataka has not got its share from the Centre, but they will not speak about it.

How long should the guarantees continue? Will the amount be hiked?
We will not stop the schemes. It's to be seen whether successive governments continue with them. If the state's financial condition improves, the amount would be increased.

There were allegations that SCSP and TSP grants were diverted for guarantees?
Karnataka is the first state to implement the Act that SCP-TSP grants should be used for the uplift of deprived communities, and any diversion is punishable. SC/STs are also beneficiaries of the guarantees. They constitute 24 per cent of the population. The five guarantees are beneficial, and we have not compromised on the uplift of these communities as our government brought in an Act to give quotas in contracts up to to Rs 1 crore to SC/STs and in allotting KIADB lands.

Despite being an experienced hand, you could not make the cut for Siddaramaiah's cabinet. What are your comments?
It's in the hands of the party high command and Siddaramaiah. I am not a member of either of the houses -- Legislative Assembly or Council. I am not after power and am happy with what I am given.

How many beneficiaries are there under Yuva Nidhi?
Participation is less. Many youths claim they were preparing for competitive examinations like KAS. We held three meetings to promote the guarantee scheme. We have a plan to give youths training at GTTC, create self-employment opportunities and make them employable.

It's been two-and-half years since guarantees were implemented, the government must have learnt many things, any plans to revise?
We have a plan to weed out well-to-do families from the list of beneficiaries, starting with Anna Bhagya guarantee, and also issue smart cards to women under Shakthi guarantee. If a farm hand doesn't get the guarantees but a landlord with tractors avails of them, it's not justified.

Union Minister Pralhad Joshi at a public meeting at Narendra village in Dharwad

Joshi threatens to protest as cops record his public meet

MALLIKARJUN HIREMATH
@ Dharwad

UNION Minister Pralhad Joshi threatened to protest in front of the office of superintendent of police in Dharwad, objecting to a police constable recording his public meeting at Narendra village on Saturday evening. He asked the constable to stop recording.

He was at the village to address the public on a lathicharge that took place there on September 6 during a Ganesha idol immersion procession. He demanded that the policemen involved in caning be suspended.

"I visited the houses of villagers injured in the lathicharge. The kids, who are three years old, have also been caned by the police. The police have acted with a personal grudge. If it continues, I will sit in dharna, forgetting that I am a union minister," he said.

SP Gunjan Arya said the police had to resort to lathicharge to maintain law and order. The police have received over 50 complaints and recorded several statements. An inquiry will be conducted based on the complaints, he added.

On the constable recording the meeting proceedings, Arya said, "We were recording the entire meeting. There is nothing wrong as it is a standard procedure. The recording stopped when the minister objected."

BJP slams CM over conversion remark

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

BJP on Sunday hit out at Chief Minister Siddaramaiah for his comment on religious conversions. The CM told reporters in Mysuru on Saturday that people were converting to other religions because of inequality in society.

Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly R Ashoka asked the CM if there is no inequality among Muslims. "If there was equality, why was there opposition for triple talaq," he asked.

Ashoka said, "In Hinduism, there were people like Dr BR Ambedkar, Swami Vivekananda and Basavanna, who tried to eradicate inequality. But it was not the case with Islam. Siddaramaiah should speak like a responsible CM."

Putting in his comments, former minister and BJP MLC CT Ravi has written to the CM, saying, "There is inequality within Congress. Senior Congress leader KN Rajanna had to lose his ministership just because he did not agree with Rahul Gandhi's allegation of 'Vote Chori'. Is this not inequality? Deputy CM DK Shivakumar had to apologise for singing the RSS anthem in the Assembly... Isn't this intolerance?"

Caste census to secure CM's chair, says Bommai

Haveri MP and former CM Basavaraj Bommai said the Constitution recognises only six religions and only those should be listed in the upcoming caste census. "A new column has been created called 'Converted Christians'. They have made it appear like a separate religion. This is illegal, unconstitutional, and politically motivated. Conversions happen on both sides. But why has the CM given legitimacy only to conversions to Christianity," the former CM asked.

He also said there is no need for caste in the social and economic survey. "Siddaramaiah has told the commission to give the caste census report in December. Meanwhile, the DK Shivakumar faction is saying there will be a leadership change in December and he will become CM. The CM is preparing to politically use the caste census report to secure his chair," the MP added.

He said the Veerashaiva-Lingayat Mahasabha has become completely Congress-dominated. "The Mahasabha should not create confusion. One time they say it is a new religion, another time Veerashaiva, then Lingayat, and after that Veerashaiva-Lingayat," he said.

A new column has been created called 'Converted Christians'. They have made it appear like a separate religion. This is illegal, unconstitutional, and politically motivated — MP Basavaraj Bommai

'BJP using communalisation to seize Mandya's vote bank'

BANSY KALAPPA @ Bengaluru

A political firestorm has erupted in Old Mysuru as former MLA B Somashekar dropped a bombshell accusing his former party BJP of masterminding the Keregodu Hanuman flag controversy to ignite communal tensions and capture Mandya's vote bank. In a blistering attack, Somashekar called the incident a calculated BJP strategy to communalise Mandya, a long-time JDS stronghold.

"Keregodu wasn't a random flare-up. It is a BJP playbook—stir communal unrest in key constituencies like Keregodu, Nagamangala, and now Maddur, which are important political centres for Mandyas' consciousness to sway voters," he said. He said that Mandya, once where BJP candidates struggled and lost their deposits election after election, is now on the cusp of flipping in their favour.

Somashekar's claims paint a grim picture of electioneering cynicism, with sacred symbols weaponised for votes.

MLC BK Hariprasad echoed the charge. "This is BJP-RSS' well known tactic — deliberately communalise, disrupt peace, and seize control."

Agriculture Minister Chaluvarayaswamy vowed resistance, stating, "We won't let BJP infiltrate Mandya."

Meanwhile, political analyst Harish Bijoor urged restraint amid rising tensions. "Polarisation may bring short-term gains, but sacrificing communal harmony is too high a price," he said.

Analyst BS Murthy said, "Taluk by taluk, BJP is targeting JDS' core vote base with communal flare-ups, while JDS leaders HD Kumaraswamy and HD Deve Gowda watch helplessly. It's a surrender — possibly a mutually agreed dismantling of JDS." Hindutva firebrand leaders like Basanagouda Yatnal and Pratap Simha are gaining traction in Mandya, signaling a rising tide of core Hindutva sentiment with what Murthy calls "tacit JDS approval."

One question swirls: Is this the BJP's masterstroke to dominate Old Mysuru, or a reckless gamble that could fracture Karnataka's social fabric? With elections looming, Mandya's voters hold the answer, but the stakes — peace and unity — couldn't be higher.

DHARMASTHALA CASE

MP: Pressure on SIT not to touch conspirators

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

THERE is political pressure on the SIT not to touch those who conspired in the Dharmasthala case and the investigation is not proceeding as expected, nor according to police procedure, alleged former CM and Haveri BJP MP **Basavaraj Bommai.** Speaking to media in Bengaluru on Sunday, Bommai said after the complaint by the so-called "mask man" was found false, different complaints are being registered. "The SIT has responsibility and accountability. Let them submit a report soon and come out with a report on the investigation carried out so far," he said.

He said the SIT has still not touched the main conspirators. "They are confident that the SIT will not come after them, that's why they are issuing statements. New complaints are pouring in, and those too are being investigated. There is political pressure on the SIT not to go after the conspirators. That is why, so far, no one has been arrested. The SIT must give a report on the investigation done so far," he added.

On the government moving ahead with data collection of guarantee scheme beneficiaries through the caste census, he said what relation do guarantees have with social and economic surveys? "This is a politically motivated survey. The Shivakumar camp is trying to use the caste census as a political weapon under the guise of collecting information for verifying guarantee beneficiaries," he said.

SIT likely to conduct mahazar at Bangleguddde

Mangaluru: The Special Investigation Team (SIT) chief DGP Pronab Mohanty held a meeting with officials at the Belthangady office in connection with the case of alleged crimes in Dharmasthala village on Sunday. The SIT is likely to conduct a proper mahazar of Bangleguddde area where the key complainant picked up the skull and produced it before the court as evidence. About late Sowjanya's uncle Vittal Gowda's claims of multiple human remains in Bangleguddea, a source in the SIT said that Gowda has made some bizarre claims. "Claims of remains of a child seems bizarre. However ,we will do a proper mahazar in the area and verify the claims made," the source added. The SIT source said that as of now only witness statements of Girish Mattannavar, Vittal Gowda, Jayant T and others have been recorded. "Only after having material evidence, we can take them into custody," the source said. Vittal had earlier told the investigators that he had brought the skull upon the instructions of Mattannavar. "After picking up the skull, he had moved the same and hidden in another spot for one or two days," SIT sources said.

Shivakumar, Dr Parameshwara trying their hand at 'soft Hindutva'?

DEVARAJ B HIREHALLI
@ Bengaluru

CLOSE on the heels of Deputy Chief Minister and KPCC president DK Shivakumar apologising to Congress and I.N.D.I.A alliance partners for reciting the RSS anthem in the Assembly, Home Minister **Dr G Parameshwara** stoked a controversy by allegedly involving in a campaign run by BJP student wing ABVP.

These instances seem to be an attempt by Congress leaders to try their hand at 'soft Hindutva', which appears inevitable to garner votes.

A few days ago, Dr Parameshwara offered flowers to the idol of Rani Abbakka Devi at a procession taken out by ABVP across the state. When activists were in Tiptur, Parameshwara who was on an official visit met them and also took part in the procession.

"Abbakka was a patriot and Parameshwara's gesture has nothing to do with politics," said Leader of Opposition R Ashoka. ABVP Joint Secretary Guruprasad too echoed similar views and clarified that ABVP is a student organisation and Parameshwara is a home minister not just for one party or one set of people.

But his detractors spiralled the issue up and took it to the party high command. "Does any BJP leader take part in an event organised by Congress' student wing NSUI," asked a Congress leader.

Issuing a clarification, Parameshwara said, "I did not participate in any ABVP programme. On the way, I chanced upon the Rani Abbakka procession. Local Congress MLA Shadakshari and I were together. They (ABVP) called me and asked me to offer flowers and I did. If anyone disputes this, let them do so, I have no problem. I am a Congressman and I will die a Congressman. We also have political opponents, who may be within or outside the party. People of the entire state know who Parameshwara is. They have known what my politics is for the last 35 years. I do not need to prove it again and again."

But many Congress politicians, especially leaders like Parameshwara, have addressed aspirations of local political outfits, irrespective of their political ideology.

During 2007-08, Parameshwara hosted 'Shristi'-engineering students' projects exhibition on his Siddhartha Engineering College campus and former MLA S Shafi Ahmed hosted a similar event on Ayurveda. Both the events were organised by ABVP.

Recently, Congress leaders, especially legislators, took part in Ganesha events in their respective towns, as these are crucial to nurture their voter base.

A 20-year-old Nepali youth died of suspected heart attack while practising for the upcoming Odisha State Armed Police Gurkha Sepoy recruitment drive at Jharsuguda on Sunday. The deceased was identified as Gobinda Kumal of Badigad village in Baglung district of Nepal

SC moved against holding Ayyappa Sangamam

Petitioner raises concerns that temple funds might be diverted

SUCHITRA KALYAN MOHANTY
@ New Delhi

WITH the Kerala High Court giving the nod for the Global Ayyappa Sangamam slated to be held on September 20 in Pampa, a devotee has moved the Supreme Court seeking a direction to stay the HC order and restrain the Travancore Devaswom Board and the state government from holding the event or using temple funds, properties, or contributions received in the name of the deity for the purpose.

In his plea, accessed by TNIE, Ayyappa devotee Dr P S Mahendrakumar has challenged the order passed on September 11. While allowing the meet, the HC had directed the organisers to ensure that the event does not affect the Sabarimala temple's sanctity or disrupt access to devotees. It had passed the order after hearing a batch of petitions challenging the involvement of the state government and the TDB in conducting the event. The petitioners raised concerns that temple funds may be used for the event.

"Restrain the respondents, their officers, agents, and assigns from proceeding with or conducting the proposed "Global Ayyappa Sangamam" scheduled for Setember 20, or from utilising temple funds, properties, or contributions in the name of the deity for any such purpose, pending the hearing and final disposal of this Special Leave Petition," Dr Mahendrakumar said in the petition.

He said the impugned HC judgment travels far beyond the plain intent of Section 15A of the Travancore-Cochin Hindu Religious Institutions Act, 1950, by reading into it powers that the legislature never envisaged. The plea questions active state sponsorship of a religious conclave and the potential misuse of temple trust property. "These issues raise grave constitutional questions touching upon the very basic structure of the Constitution, secularism as well as the fiduciary nature of temple property. The existence of such substantial questions of law of general public importance establishes a compelling prima facie case for interim relief," the plea said.

The Sangamam is conceived as a one-day event with overt political, cultural, and religious overtones, requiring large-scale mobilisation of resources and deployment of temple infrastructure, Mahendrakumar said. Mahendrakumar further said that once trust property is diverted, political dignitaries occupy sacred precincts, and temporary structures are erected on the fragile riverbanks, the harm to devotees' rights, to the sanctity of Sabarimala, and to the environment of the River Pampa will be irreversible.

HC's Division Bench of Justices Raja Vijayaraghavan V and K V Jayakumar issued the directive while hearing petitions that sought to prevent the conduct of the meet over concerns that it was a political event that misused Lord Ayyappa's name.

Sabarimala to open for monthly pooja tomorrow

Sabarimala temple will be opened on Tuesday for the five-day monthly pooja for the Malayalam month of Kanni. Melsanthi Arunkumar Nampoothiri will open the sreekovil of the hill shrine at 5pm in the presence of thantri Kandararu Mahesh Mohanaru. The entry for darshan will be restricted to devotees who possess online pass. **ENS**

Gowda seeks enough funds for road works

BR UDAYA KUMAR @ Hassan

UNDERLINING the importance of Chennai-Bengaluru National Expressway-7 [NE-7] and Bengaluru-Hyderabad [NH-44], former prime minister **HD Deve Gowda** said on Sunday that the Centre should provide enough grants in the upcoming budget to complete the project. The industrial corridors is expected to enhance the regional connectivity and economic growth.

Gowda was here in Hassan to console the families of the deceased of the Mosalehosahalli accident and said that the NE-7 and NH-44 connect with NH-48, which further links Bengaluru-Hassan-Mangaluru, creating an important tri-port connection between Chennai, Mangaluru and Vishakapatanam ports. Gowda said that to reinforce this network and ensure all-weather, uninterrupted transit, the proposal strongly advocates for the construction of the pending tunnel project at Shiradi ghat, which is a landslide-prone stretch during monsoons.

The Shiradi tunnel project is expected to improve reliability, safety and ecological sustainability drastically. Highlighting the advantages of the strategic infrastructure project of NE 7, he added that the 288 km access-controlled expressway under Bharatmala pariyojana reduces travel time from 7 hours to 3 hours and boosts industrial movement between Karnataka and Tamil Nadu.

Surprisingly, Gowda urged the Chief Minister Siddaramaiah to forget about the bitter political experiences in the past and cooperate for the development of the state. Doing politics during the elections is different, and he is not interested in recalling the bad experiences.

'Unscientific and bad roads lead to accidents'

Former Prime Minister HD Deve Gowda has expressed deep concern over the increase in road accidents. He said that the alleged unscientific and bad roads led to accidents. He said his party will pay Rs 1 lakh each in compensation for the kin of the deceased. He said that he will never take political sanyasa and fight for the causes. His aim is to provide justice to his own state, Karnataka, by taking the state and the Centre into confidence, setting politics aside.

The industrial corridors is expected to enhance the regional connectivity and economic growth. The Shiradi tunnel project is expected to improve reliability, safety and ecological sustainability

—Former Primer Minister HD Deve Gowda

Ramadoss bats for extention of Metro to Hosur

Krishnagiri: Tamil Nadu government should hold talks with Karnataka to extend metro rail connectivity to Hosur in Krishnagiri, said PMK founder Dr S Ramadoss at Hosur. He said, "More companies should be brought to Hosur ELCOT, also GST should be reduced to 5% for MSME sectors. Also Hosur should be formed as another district comprising Hosur, Thalli and Veppanahalli assembly constituencies."

B'luru-Chennai e-way hits roadblock in TN

B ANBUSELVAN @ Chennai

THE construction of 106-km Bengaluru-Chennai Expressway in Tamil Nadu, between Gudipala and Sriperumbudur, has hit a roadblock. The work has been delayed mainly due to the relocation of 102 high-voltage power towers and transmission lines in the Arakkonam-Kancheepuram (25.5 km) section. These DC towers of 400 kV transmission lines linked to multiple substations in Kancheepuram and Ranipet districts, and managed by the Tamil Nadu Transmission Corporation (TANTRANSCO), obstruct nearly 4.5 km of the planned expressway at multiple places on this stretch, officials said.

"Unlike regular land acquisition, relocating power towers involves securing new land parcels, realigning transmission routes, and addressing several technical challenges. Of the 102 towers, about 80 have already been shifted, and arrangements are in place to relocate the remaining 22," an official said.

The official explained that when the district administration identifies alternative sites for relocating the electric towers, a few landowners challenge the acquisition in court. "These legal disputes further delay the process," the official added.

The 262-km, four-lane, access-controlled expressway stretches from Hoskote in Karnataka to Sriperumbudur in Tamil Nadu. The construction began in 2019 and was originally slated for completion by the end of 2024. However, the deadline was pushed back multiple times and is now set for June next year.

Once operational, it is expected to reduce travel time between the two cities (Chennai and Bengaluru) to just three hours from the existing six to seven hours. The Rs 17,000-crore project is designed to allow vehicles to travel at 120 kmph, featuring four lanes with the option to expand to eight lanes in the future.

The 71-km stretch from Hoskote to Bethamangala in Karnataka was completed and opened to traffic in December 2024. In Tamil Nadu, 80 km of the 106-km stretch has been finished so far. In Andhra Pradesh (AP), progress on the Baireddypalle-Bangarupalem section has been slower, as the highway passes through hilly terrain, posing major challenges in both construction and land acquisition. Out of the 85-km stretch in AP, 68 km has been completed.

Work delayed due to shifting of 102 power towers on Arakkonam-Kancheepuram stretch | EXPRESS

DIVINE INNOCENCE

A young boy dressed as Lord Krishna participates in a Janmashtami procession in Kochi on Sunday | A SANESH

Newborn sold at Ballari govt hosp for ₹1.5 lakh, four arrested

KIRAN BALANNANAVAR @ Ballari

FOUR people were booked after a newborn baby was sold from the Ballari Institute of Medical Sciences (BIMS) hospital. A 65-year-old, who was already convicted in a previous newborn baby kidnapping case, along with three others, sold a baby boy for Rs 1.5 lakh. This is the second case registered in Ballari within a week.

The case was recently registered at Brucepet police station. SP Shobha Rani formed a team, and the case has now been solved. The four arrested accused are Shamin Ismail (25), Ismail Yacob Sab (65), Basha Sab (55) and Basavaraj Sajjan (43). One of the accused, Sajjan, contacted Ismail, who stayed near the BIMS hospital for adoption. According to police, the team suggested that they, instead of

adoption they should opt for kidnapping. As per the plan, Ismail kidnapped the baby and sold him to Sajjan, who came to BIMS for a health check-up on September 12. For the last two months, the accused have been getting the money in instalments.

Shobha Rani V J, SP, solved the case within one day of the incident and congratulated the team. Based on CCTV records of the hospital and other technical evidence, the case was solved, and multiple cases under IPC 137(2), 143(4), 3(5) and BNS-2003 have been registered.

Recently, in Vijayanagara, four people, including two ASHA workers, have been arrested in connection with newborn baby kidnapping. They sold the baby girl for Rs 10,000. The villagers demanded a strict action plan from the government against the kidnapping racket. Police said that government hospitals and poor family members are the main targets of these kidnappers.

EXPRESS READ

School director paid ₹2L to learn drug production

Hyderabad: A day after EAGLE sleuths busted a drug manufacturing racket at Medha School in Old Bowenpally, police said the prime accused, school director Malela Jaya Prakash Goud, had started producing alprazolam on the premises about eight months ago, after learning the process two years earlier by paying Rs 2 lakh. A source from EAGLE told TNIE that Prakash earlier ran a toddy compound in his native Thunikinipur, Mahbubnagar, between 2021 and 2022, where he also sold adulterated toddy. He met one Guruva Reddy, from whom he bought the procedure for manufacturing alprazolam for Rs 2 lakh. He later set up a lab on the second floor of the school. **ENS**

Robbers stop car, use chilli powder to steal 10kg gold

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Tiruchy

Three miscreants allegedly robbed two employees of a Chennai-based jewellery store of 10 kg gold, worth around ₹10 crore, on Saturday by breaking a car window and sprinkling chilli powder on them near Irungalur in Tiruchy aorund 10 pm.

SR Gunavanth (24) of Ernavur and D Mahesh Rawal (20) of Sowcarpet, employees of a private jewellery shop at Sowcarpet, were returning to Chennai after delivering gold to various jewellery outlets in Dindigul. The car, provided by the jewellery store, was driven by T Pradeep Jat (24). As they passed Irungalur on the Tiruchy-Chennai National Highway, Pradeep stopped. Then three unidentified men in another car, who were allegedly following them smashed the window and threw chilli powder on them. They opened the boot and fled with the gold bags, sources said.

IN THE COURT OF THE 2nd ADDITIONAL CITY CIVIL AND SESSIONS JUDGE, (CCH-17) AT BANGALORE

LAC NO.302 OF 2019

Between;

Sri. Rangaswamy ...Claimants

And;

The SLAO, K.H.B, Bangalore ...Respondents

NOTICE/SUMMONS TO THE CLAIMANTS No. 10,17,23

Claimant No.10:
Sri. Garudaiah
S/o Chikka Rangaiah @ Pathaiah R/at Chunchanakuppe Post, Tavarekere Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore Urban District- 562130.

Claimant No.17:
Smt. Siddamma W/o Late Venkateshappa, R/at Bangarappa Nagar, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore Urban District-560098.

Claimant No.23:
Smt. Lakshmamma D/o Late Muddarangaiah W/o Late Sampangaiah residing at Byalau Village, Chunchanakuppe Post, Tavarekere Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore Urban District- 562130.

Whereas the above respondent has made a reference before this court under section 77(1) of RFCTLA Act, 2013 in the land acquisition case No.KHB/LAQ/5/2010-11 in respect of Survey No. 58/6, measuring 0-38 Guntas of Byalalu Village, Tavarekere Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bengaluru District vide declaration No.RD:204:Bhu, Swa, Be 2012 dated 27-11-2012. The awarded amount has been deposited before this court, for apportionment.

That the above case is posted on 24/9/25 at 11.00 a.m. The claimant No.10,17,23 you are hereby summoned to appear in this court in person or through an advocate duly instructed by you, failing which the above case will be determined in your absence by placing exparte.

Given under my hand and seal of this court on this **16th day of July 2025.**

By the order of this court
Senior Shirastedar,
City Civil Court, Bengaluru

Advocate for Respondent
Ravindra H. T., Advocate,
No.105, AKV Chambers,
Ebrahim Saheb Street,
Shivajinagar, Bangalore-560001.
Ph: 98861 41141.

DIPR/CP/RO2790B/AAPL/2025-26

NATIONAL EDUCATION SOCIETY ®

NATIONAL COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

Shivamogga, Karnataka

REQUIRED

PRINCIPAL as per PCI Norms

Applications are invited from qualified candidates.

Post	Academic Qualifiaction	Experience
Principal	First Class B.Pharm degree and Master's degree in Pharmacy (M.Pharm) in an appropriate branch of specialization in Pharmacy or Pharm.D (Qualifications must be PCI recognized). And Ph.D. degree in any of the Pharmacy subjects (PhD must be PCI-recognized).	Essential 15 years' experience in teaching or research out of which 5 years must be as a Professor/ HOD in a PCI-approved/recognized pharmacy college. Desirable: Administrative experience in a responsible position.

Total Student Strength: 630+

Application on plain paper with complete resume along with copies of relevant certificate & testimonials should be sent by mail within 7 days from the date of advertisement.

Contact: Principal-9449573422 Email Id: ncpvacancy@gmail.com

Secretary NES

ಕೆ.ಎಂ.ಎಫ್ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಹಕಾರ ಹಾಲು ಉತ್ಪಾದಕರ ಮಹಾಮಂಡಳ ನಿಯಮಿತ

ಕಹಾಮ ಸಂಕೀರ್ಣ, ಡಾ. ಎಂ.ಹೆಚ್. ಮರಿಗೌಡ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-560 029

ಫೋನ್: 080- 25536625, 25536789, 26096834, 26096811

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಕಹಾಮ/ಅಭಿ/ಧಾರವಾಡ ಡಿಪೋ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ/02155/2025-26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 11.09.2025

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನ ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಹಕಾರ ಹಾಲು ಮಹಾ ಮಂಡಳವು ಕೆ.ಪಿ.ಡಬ್ಲ್ಯೂ.ಡಿ/ಸಿ.ಪಿ.ಡಬ್ಲ್ಯೂಡಿ/ ಎಂ.ಇ.ಎಸ್ ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೋಂದಾಯಿಸಿದ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು / ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಿಂದ ಈ ಕೆಳಗಿನ ಕೋಷ್ಟಕದಲ್ಲಿ ನೀಡಿರುವ ಕೆಲಸಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖೇನ ದ್ವಿ-ಲಕೋಟೆ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು (Technical and Financial) ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಆಸಕ್ತರು ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in ಮೂಲಕ ಟೆಂಡರನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. (Help desk e-mail: support@eprochelpdesk.com and helpline No: +91-804601000, +91-8068948777).

ಕ್ರ. ಸಂ.	ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ಹೆಸರು	ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ.	ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ. ರೂ. ಪೈ.	ಮುಕ್ತಾಯದ ಅವಧಿ
1	ಧಾರವಾಡ ತರಬೇತಿ ಕೇಂದ್ರದ ಆವರಣದಲ್ಲಿ ನಂದಿನಿ ಸಗಟು ಮಾರಾಟ ಮಳಿಗೆ/ಸೇಲ್ಸ್ ಡಿಪೋ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಮತ್ತಿತರೆ ಪೂರಕ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ ಕೆಲಸಗಳು, ರಾಯಾಪುರ, ಧಾರವಾಡ.	480.00 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು (ಜಿ.ಎಸ್.ಟಿ. ಪ್ರತ್ಯೇಕ)	7,20,000/-	12 ತಿಂಗಳು

1) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಷೆಡ್ಯೂಲ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಡೌನ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 15.09.2025 ರಿಂದ 14.10.2025 ರ ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 4:00 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ. 2) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 14.10.2025 ರ ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 4:00 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ. 3) ಟೆಂಡರ್ (ಭಾಗ- 1) ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 16.10.2025 ರಂದು ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11.30 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ.

ಇನ್ನಿತರೆ ನಿಬಂಧನೆಗಳು, ಷರತ್ತುಗಳು ಹಾಗೂ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿ/ ಬದಲಾವಣೆಗಳನ್ನು ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್: http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in ನಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಹಕಾರ ಹಾಲು ಮಹಾಮಂಡಳದ ಪರವಾಗಿ
ಸಹಿ/- ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು (ಅಭಿಯಂತರ-1)

POSSESSION NOTICE

Whereas, the authorized officer of **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** under the Securitization And Reconstruction of Financial Assets And Enforcement Of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13 (2) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 issued **demand notices** to the borrower(s)/ Co-borrowers(s) calling upon the borrowers to repay the amount mentioned against the respective names together with interest thereon at the applicable rates as mentioned in the said notices within **60 days** from the date of receipt of the said notices, along with future interest as applicable incidental expenses, costs, charges etc. incurred till the date of payment and/or realisation.

Sr. No.	Loan No.	Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ Mortgagor	13(2) Notice Date/ Outstanding Due (in Rs.) as on	Date/ Time & Type of Possession
1	45350430001061	1) Mrs. Gowramma, 2) Mr. Devaraju, 3) Mr. Yashodha Narayanappa	17.05.2025 Rs.4,87,950.71 (Rupees Four Lakh Eighty Seven Thousand Nine Hundred Fifty and Seventy One Paisa Only) due as on 15-05-2025	Date: 11-09-2025 Time: 01:49 PM Symbolic Possession

Description of the Property: All that piece and parcel of the Property No.234/4, S.I.No.266, measuring 30x40 feet, Situated at Arebommanahalli Village, Arebommanahalli Grama Panchayath, Thyamagonda Hobali, Nelamangala Taluk, Bangalore District and **Bounded on: East by:** Road, **West by:** Vacant Site, **North by:** House belongs to Jayamma, **South by:** Vacant Place.

Whereas the Borrower's/ Co-Borrower's/ Guarantor's/ Mortgagors, mentioned herein above have failed to repay the amounts due, notice is hereby given to the Borrower's mentioned herein above in particular and to the Public in general that the authorised officer of **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** has **taken possession** of the properties/ secured assets described herein above in exercise of powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the said act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the dates mentioned above. The Borrower's/ Co-Borrower's/ Guarantor's/ Mortgagors mentioned herein above in particular and the Public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the aforesaid properties/ Secured Assets and any dealings with the said properties/ Secured assets will be subject to the charge of **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited.**

Place: Bangalore
Date: 15.09.2025

Sd/- Authorised Officer,
For Jana Small Finance Bank Limited

JANA SMALL FINANCE BANK (A Scheduled Commercial Bank)
Registered Office: The Fairway, Ground & First Floor, Survey No.10/1, 11/2 & 12/2B, Off Domlur, Koramangla Inner Ring Road, Next to EGL Business Park, Challaghatta, Bangalore-560071.

QuoteExpress IT ALWAYS SEEMS IMPOSSIBLE UNTIL IT'S DONE) NELSON MANDELA

The Grain Merchants' Co-Operative Bank Ltd.,

.O, No.2, Pampamahakavi Road, Chamarajpet, Bengaluru-560018.

Phone 26677552, 26679041

Estd:1927

POSSESSION NOTICE FOR IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

[APPENDIX IV (RULE 8(1)]

Where as the undersigned being the authorised officer of The Grain Merchants' Co-Operative Bank Limited under the Securitisation and Reconstructionof Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (2) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules. at The Grain Merchants' Co-Operative Bank Limited within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrowers in the following accounts having failed to repay the amount, notice is here by given to the borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken symbolic possession of the property described here in bellow in exercise of powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 & 9 of the said rules on the dates mentioned herein below. The borrowers in particular and the public in general is/are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of The Grain Merchants' Co-Operative Bank Limited for amount and interest on & other charges.

Date of Possession: 11.09.2025

Name of the Borrower/Surety & Description of the Property Mortgaged	Amount outstanding
Applicant: Smt K.Gowri W/o Sri R.Pandurangan & Sri P.Sridhar S/o R.Pandurangan **Surety: Sri Rajesh Rajavenu S/o Sri K.C.Rajavenu** All that piece and parcel of Residential Property bearing No.25, BBMP Khatha No.373/10/25, Situated at Thindlu Village, Yelhanka Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bengaluru now coming under the jurisdiction of BBMP measuring East to West: 40 feet and North to South: 60 feet along with 4100 Square feet residential building consisting of Ground Floor and First Floor and Second Floor and bounded on the: East by: Site No.26, West by: Road, North by: Road and South by: Road.	92,72,304/- + Int. thereon 11.09.2025

Amount paid if any by any of the above borrowers after issuance of Possession Notice, would be reckoned for ascertaining the dues payable at the time of realisation / settlement.

Place: Bangalore
Date: 11.09.2025

Sd/-
Authorised Officer,
The Grain Merchants' Co-Operative Bank Ltd.,
Bangalore -18

EDITORIAL

The shorter way to do many things is to only do one thing at a time

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

INDIAN EXPRESS IS NOT AN INDUSTRY. IT IS A MISSION.

— Ramnath Goenka

WELL BEGUN, STAY ON LONG JOURNEY TO HEALING IN MANIPUR

WHILE Prime Minister Narendra Modi issued a call for peace and reconciliation between the warring Kukis and the Meiteis in troubled Manipur, Kuki lawmakers told him the best-case scenario was living together as good neighbours but never under the same roof. It conveyed the scale of mutual distrust ever since the 2023 ethnic riots. Before the clashes, Meitei government employees posted in the hills where Kukis reside could function as comfortably as their Kuki-Zo counterparts in the Meitei-dominated valley. Access to institutional markers, such as the legislative assembly, courts, and the lone airport in the Imphal Valley, was free for all communities and races. All that changed in mid-2023 when the violence resulted in ethnic cleansing on both sides. Kuki MLAs dare not go to the legislative assembly any longer, fearing threats to their lives. Modi was aware of the wedge when he spoke about building an ethnic bridge of trust. Ten Kuki lawmakers, including seven from the BJP, shared their thoughts with the PM through a joint memorandum. As things stand, achieving what the Kuki-Zo MLAs think is doable—both sides agreeing to live as good neighbours—would in itself be a very big deal.

Modi, motoring 64 km to Churachandpur from Imphal, as his helicopter could not take off due to blinding rain, came as a positive gesture, as the Kuki-Zos lined the streets to give him a warm welcome. The size of the development package announced for the Kuki-Zo region (over ₹7,300 crore) was significantly more than that for the Meiteis (₹1,200 crore), which did not go unnoticed. Announcements like the establishment of Churachandpur's first-ever medical college have the benevolent potential for racial intermixing when things change for the better.

The PM, interacting with the internally displaced on both sides, some of whom broke down, gave an indication of how the scars of the violence are yet to heal. Modi said resettling them after their homes are reconstructed is right up on his to-do list. Going forward, making both sides equal stakeholders in the Manipur growth engine through innovative ideas and universal participation, and addressing demographic aspirations with full transparency, will be the balm for peace and rehabilitation. As Modi said, the story of Indian culture would be incomplete without the rich Manipuri culture.

TELANGANA HC DEFENDS DISSENT, UPHOLDS RIGHTS

CLEARLY, freedom of speech and expression is coming under attack with alarming frequency across the country. Most assaults are directed at common social media users who air opinions, more often than not, in language that is less than civil. Unfortunately, though they do not mean harm, many have faced the wrath of the powers that be. Against this backdrop, the recent verdict of the Telangana High Court in *Nalla Balu* (2025) is a grim reminder. It is time we find a way to protect our rights and ensure some semblance of civility in social discourse.

The case began with the arrest of a social media user sympathetic to the Bharat Rashtra Samiti, who posted critical comments against the ruling Congress. The court quashed the FIRs, finding the allegations—including incitement and public mischief—to be baseless. The court cited Supreme Court rulings and issued specific guidelines to prevent police abuse of power. The key legal point clarified is that criticism, even if offensive, is protected under Article 19(1)(a) of the Constitution, so long as there is no intent or threat to incite law and order issues.

The court's guidelines provide a common-sense approach. It is blindingly obvious that police must conduct an inquiry to verify the complaint and determine if the complainant is, in fact, the aggrieved person before proceeding further. And, any FIR could be registered for the alleged offence of seeking to promote enmity or public disorder if there is prima facie evidence. Most important is the court's insistence that arrest cannot be the norm. The Supreme Court, in several rulings, including the *Shreya Singhal* case (2015), has pointed to a similar conclusion.

There are other aspects to consider. The judiciary noted that there is a need for the Centre or the States to develop legislation or guidelines on the use of social media. However, we are of the view that many victims post offensive content, carried away by the polarising stance taken by political parties or ideologues. The onus, hence, is on the latter to exercise restraint. And the police should not act to please their political masters. After all, we are no longer in the British Raj.

QUICK TAKE

DYING WITHOUT CARE

THE recent report of the Sample Registration System (SRS) 2023 shows 45.7 percent of deaths in Indian hospitals occurred without medical attention or were handled by untrained functionaries. In rural areas, the trauma compounds as people also die at home because hospitals are too far, ambulances are too late, and care is unaffordable. The numbers are a grim reminder of how fragile access to emergency healthcare remains and how timely care can save or at least ease patients' final hours. This is a waste of life we cannot ignore. Healthcare must be brought closer, faster, and fairer, and public health departments must also track end-of-life medical attention as a development indicator.

Southern stakeholders must jointly deliver the next phase of the peninsula's development transformation—a productive and high-income society driven by prosperity & capability

HIGHER LEARNING, BRIGHTER FUTURE: NEXT SOUTH SLOGAN

RATHIN ROY

Distinguished professor at Kautilya School of Public Policy, Hyderabad; visiting senior fellow, Overseas Development Institute, London

PENINSULA

THE peninsular states have achieved per capita incomes well above the national average, eliminated extreme poverty, and made laudable progress in human development. They are manufacturing and modern service hubs, with low-quality jobs increasingly outsourced to migrants from poorer parts of India. The peninsula needs a massive increase in productivity and growth in the size and employment-generating potential of the formal sector. A virtuous nexus of high wages and high productivity is the next aspiration.

This will require a significant increase in the volume and quality of higher education offered in the peninsula. Improving the quality of school education is a necessary priority; however, in the peninsula, there is every reason to simultaneously double down on higher education.

This focus on higher education is both achievable and essential. The peninsular states already have a foundation in quality private higher education institutions, such as medical and engineering schools at Suratkal and Manipal, as well as the evolution of GITAM University, Vellore Christian Medical College, and the Vellore Institute of Technology, among other pioneers. These institutions, along with newer entrants such as SRM University and Azim Premji University, offer a practical starting point for scaling up the quality of higher education to boost productivity.

This is a partial list of higher education institutions that have established an outstanding track record of delivering quality higher education. The success of their placement activities also demonstrates the employment "fit for purpose" delivery of these universities.

These are not *babalog* universities. The students I teach come from a variety of backgrounds, many of whom are from tier three towns and rural areas. They are curious, eager to learn, and aware that their generation needs to struggle far harder than mine to survive in an increasingly fractious and partitioned global market. They have, through their higher education journey, seen only stagnation in entry-level salaries and a shrinking of economic opportunities in stark contrast to every generation that came to adulthood since 1991.

Even so, they have embraced three core ideas. First, that their economic future, and that of the country, is critically dependent on rapidly increasing productivity in services and manufacturing.

SOURAV ROY

Second, there is work to be done to reform the rotten and collapsing socio-economic ecosystem that we have bequeathed to them. Third, and most importantly, a successful career is a by-product of a holistic and well-rounded education, and it is key to building productivity-enhancing ecosystems.

As I have taught and interacted with students, educators, founders, and leaders in private university campuses across the peninsula, I see these three core ideas both internalised and embraced.

Doubling down on higher education is desirable because:

1. Public higher education institutions in the peninsula have atrophied, as have most in the rest of India. Most of them are now intellectual dead zones occupying desirable real estate, providing subsidised food and housing to those taking competitive exams. And political interference is throttling even the successful outliers.

2. Switching public money to funding school education makes fiscal sense. This need not mean obstacles for financially or socially challenged students—Azim Premji University provides a template for addressing societal, caste, and ethnic barriers to entry. GITAM offers significant means-tested scholarships. I have also worked on a model where every student finances their education through a loan to cover the entire cost of their education. Repayment is calibrated to the student's employment and remuneration trajectory. Thus, a lawyer who chooses to defend the poor and weak could have her loan written off eventually, while a corporate lawyer would have it paid back with interest at market rates.

3. Founders and faculty realise that a univariate focus on "job prospect" fields—engineering, law, medicine and architecture—should not be a pretext to deprive students in these fields of a rounded social science and humanities education, or to discourage students with aptitudes in the humanities and social sciences from gaining an education that gives them the skills to navigate the job space. A high-productivity ecosystem requires thinking, cognitive, and ethical skills, as well as shared values. Especially in the age of AI, we need a thinking workforce, and that requires a first-rate 360-degree education, not an assembly line of glorified technicians. (There is a need to fix this problem at the school level also; in Chennai, Hyderabad, and Bengaluru, only a fraction of schools offer a Humanities (even with Math) higher secondary option.

4. Public-private partnerships to revive public universities and higher education institutions ringfenced from low-level political meddling should be seriously considered as a cost-effective, productivity-enhancing intervention.

A grand bargain—a privately run and managed affordable and holistic higher education ecosystem that delivers knowledge, productivity, and modern thinking skills, with public money then freed to quadruple per student spending on school education—is, in my view, an exceptionally good deal. However, achieving this is no trivial task. It requires jointness in thinking, across the peninsular states and between *Samaj*–the society that is bringing their children into adult life, *Sarkar*–the governments of the peninsula, and *Bazaar*–private founders, industrialists and leaders of the modern economy—to come together to deliver a mutually beneficial political settlement that delivers the next phase of the peninsula's development transformation—a high productivity high income society that is driven by prosperity and capability, not rents and nepotism.

Peninsular India is fortunate to have the base from which to springboard to achieve this vision. It is up to our generation to have the passion to reverse the declining fortunes of the young by coming together to make it happen.

(Views are personal)
(rathin100@gmail.com)

EXPLAINING KARMIC REPERCUSSIONS

RENUKA NARAYANAN

FAITHLINE

PITRPAKSH is currently underway, from September 7 to 21. It is an annual event in the Indian calendar when Hindus pay homage to their *pitris*, or ancestors, both known and unknown, with oil lamps and offerings. Since their core text, the *Bhagavad Gita*, and generations of Indian names come from the *Mahabharata*, I thought it would be appropriate to revisit that timeless tale during this solemn period of remembrance.

Everyone has presumably read the *Mahabharata* by Vyasa in some form or another. As it is one of India's two major epics, the other being the *Ramayana*, it's virtually a karmic duty to have read it. Vyasa's craft as a master storyteller keeps it racy, pacy, and unputdownable through the *Mahabharata*'s eighteen *parvas* or sections. He delights in setting people up for a big fall, and the tension never abates. In fact, you need nerves of steel to stay with the story; it is so intense when read in close detail.

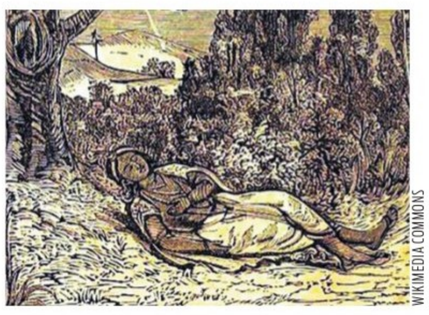
Having said a few things to frighten you off the book, let me share why I feel it is so relevant, moving, and necessary to re-read it. Across Indian epics, the concept of karmic repercussion is the explanation for why bad things happen. There are too many external variables to control. So, what can one actually control in this out-of-control existence except one's own response to situations and relationships?

Of these responses, anger is consistently identified as the worst destabiliser through story after story. Therefore, by removing oneself from anger, one's karmic consequences may be reduced and may even be nullified, to break free of the endless cycle of birth.

In contrast to Duryodhana, Yudhishthira is a prime example of this approach, always seeking to tone things down to a state of calmness. But it does not come easy. Draupadi and Bhima constantly reproach and fight with him about his 'peacenik' attitude. It churns the stomach to read what they spew.

The foundation of anger in the Mahabharata is not just personal but also political. It is the anger of mighty Jarasandha of Magadha, when foiled by the young Sri Krishna, in his intent to take over Aryavarta. He invades Mathura seventeen times, finally causing Krishna to move his people to safety in Dwaraka on the coast. Besides this, other monumental layers of anger create further dynamics—the anger of Amba, the anger of Drona, the anger of Duryodhana, the anger of Draupadi, the anger of Ashwatthama, and, in a shattering finale, the brawling doom of the Vrishnis that marks the passing of the Krishnavatara and the end of the epoch.

As we read, we come to know Vyasa better, especially his high literary confidence. He does not hesitate to cast even his most virtuous characters in an ambivalent light, demonstrating that no human being is perfect. Karna, Yudhishtira, and Arjuna are striking examples of this. Conversely, Duryodhana has his positive moments, when he elevates the then outsider Karna to the king of Anga, disregarding his social status.



WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

> Anger is consistently identified as the worst destabiliser through story after story. Therefore, by removing oneself from anger, one's karmic consequences may be reduced and may even be nullified, to break free of the endless cycle of birth

The longest and possibly the most popular *parva* in the Mahabharata is the *Vana Parva* or Forest Section, in which the Pandavas spend twelve years exiled in the forest. It contains many gems that have been explored by the performing and visual arts of India, for instance, the story of Nala and Damayanti.

Also, the episode of Yaksha Prashna is a gripping passage on the nature of life, in the form of a dialogue between Yudhishthira and his father, Yama, disguised as a Yaksha or nature spirit. In the middle of a war story, we hear the question: "What is the highest duty in the world?" and Yudhishthira's profound answer: "To not hurt others is the highest of all duties".

Charming events occur, as when Rishi Markandeya visits the Pandavas twice in exile, in the Kamyaka forest to the west of the Kurukshetra plain, and in the Dvaitayana forest on the border of the Thar Desert. Once, his visit coincides with Krishna's.

The rishi is a great favourite of theirs since he is a good storyteller. They sit around him, and Krishna says, "Please tell us a story, tell us lots of stories." It conjures up a vivid picture of Krishna, the Pandavas, and their followers seated around Sage Markandeya in a verdant grove, all listening to stories—touchingly different from the typical battlefield images and chocolate-box Krishna pictures that we are used to seeing in calendar art.

The stories told in the Mahabharata constantly shore up the concept of karma. There are also frequent utterances by the Pandavas that 'it is all fate' and 'who can escape fate?' Kunti laments, "*Bhagyavantamparasuyeta ma shooram ma cha panditam*", meaning, 'Only the lucky can prevail, not the brave nor the learned.'

Is there a way out of their understandably fatalistic view? Yes, there is, avers the epic. We have to wait, though, until that electrifying moment on the battlefield of Kurukshetra when Krishna imparts the Bhagavad Gita.

The most haunting passage for me is the passing of Krishna near the end, after he completes 125 years on earth. It is unbearably sad to read, but I read it nevertheless, assured of his eternal presence. My foremost takeaways from it are marvel at Vyasa, and the drained yet elated feeling of having completed an important journey into the heart of the human condition. If, at the end of reading the Mahabharata, we find that we were moved by pity and terror, and attained a valuable perspective on life, we belong to a very old family of countless *pitris*.

(Views are personal)
(shebaba09@gmail.com)

MAILBAG

WRITE TO: letters@newindianexpress.com

Stumbling G7

Ref: *Poor rich G7 and their third world troubles* (Sep 14). The G7, once symbols of stability, now stumble with debt, deficits and political turmoil—echoing the very 'third-world troubles' they scorned. Gun violence, leadership churn, and fiscal chaos exposes their tall claims. Arrogance and inaction have hollowed their strength, proving wealth without reform only magnifies fragility.
A Myilsami, Coimbatore

India-Nepal history

Ref: *Nepal's search for ideological identity* (Sep 14). India has a deep connection with Nepal not just being the closest neighbour, but through our shared culture, history and spiritual heritage. It is our responsibility to come to its rescue by offering financial and diplomatic support to tide over the situation.
N A Joseph, Kottayam

Survival tools

Ref: *Getting the five elements right* (Sep 14). The column is educational and timely. Ayurveda also emphasises on 'Pancha Maha bhootas' which are very important for survival. Earth, water and air get priority attention for their protection and maintenance of their clean source. Without these, a healthy lifestyle or a healthy society would be a farce.
T N Manjunatha, Mysuru

Public fury

Ref: *India must support Nepal with empathy, embrace its youth* (Sep 12). The Nepalese ethos, where its youth turns fearless, calls for a deeper study. Why are rulers, unable to face public uprising, forced to flee the country? Every nation has to draw lessons from Nepal's story.
Geetha B K, Kannur

Wellness shortcuts

Ref: *Bring to heal* (Sep 14). Fancy 'wellness' and feel-good quick fixes have increasingly been tagged to travel and holidaying. People must be cautious of wellness quick fixes. Only time will reveal their ill effects on the human body. Shortcuts to 'wellness' are notorious to turn out to be shortcuts to disease.
George Jacob, Kochi

Manipur delay

Ref: *PM's big pitch for peace and reconciliation* (Sep 14). Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Manipur is a stark reminder of the government's inordinately delayed response to the humanitarian crisis. The 'double-engine government' has failed miserably in restoring peace and the untimely intervention has exacerbated the humanitarian crisis.
Dileep D Anand, Alappuzha

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS
Chairman of the Board: **Manoj Kumar Sonthalia** Editor: **Santwana Bhattacharya**
Published by **R K Jhunjhunwala** on behalf of Express Publications (Madurai) Private Limited, at No. 1, Queen's Road, Bengaluru - 560 001 and printed by him at Express Press, Plot No. 2A, Bommasandra Industrial Area, 4th Phase, Survey No. 46, Part Yarandahalli Village, Jigani Hobli, Anekal Taluk. Bengaluru - 560 099. **Bengaluru.** Vol. 61, No. 219 RNI Reg. No. 3457/1960. Phone: 080-22866893. **Copyright:** Express Publications (Madurai) Private Limited. All rights reserved. Reproduction in any manner, electronic or otherwise, in whole or in part, without prior written permission is prohibited.

POSTS OF THE DAY

Ashwini Vaishnaw @AshwiniVaishnaw
Indian languages are our cultural heritage. They play a vital role in building an Atmanirbhar Bharat... Wishing everyone a Happy Hindi Diwas.

Pawan Khera @Pawankhera
Here is Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru's Broadcast to the Nation on Nov 19 1962.Before lying to the people of Assam & North East, @PMOIndia will do well to ask someone to read it out to him.

Nilanjan Das @NilanjanDasAITC
Non biological @narendramodi says he is a Shiv bhakt & can swallow all poison. Truth is, he keeps spewing poison into society while citizens suffer the consequences.

Modi mantra: Nurturing cadres, strengthening organisation

OPINION

B. L. SANTOSH
National General Secretary of BJP

IT takes the towering devotion of its cadres to make an organisation truly bloom in all its glory. This has been the guiding mantra of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's life and his organisational vision. Modi has always considered cadres as the heart of the organisation. Nurturing them, training them, and empowering them has remained among his foremost tasks. He believes that the organisation is not just a framework, its real strength lies in the ability, discipline, and dedication of its cadres.

Narendra Modi became a 'pracharak' (full-time worker) of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) in the early 1970s. After the Emergency in 1977, when he emerged as an able organiser in the role of vibhag pracharak, his working style was rooted in cadre-building. The early 1980s was a period when RSS had very limited spread in Gujarat. Even setting up a single 'shakha' (branch) in a taluka was considered a big achievement in those days. But the young Modi had a different vision: "Every village should have a shakha, "he would say. He would assign responsibility for setting up of each branch to a cadre and periodically take progress reports — who the chief instructor was, what activities were conducted, who remained absent and why — every detail was monitored carefully.

In 1985, when the RSS completed 60 years, a massive camp was organised in Karnavati (Ahmedabad). Nearly 5,000 cadres attended the camp. In its run-up, Modi went from village to village, meeting youth and motivating them to purchase uniforms. As a result, hundreds of new young people not only reached the camp but also became permanently associated with the organisation. This infused fresh energy into the Gujarat unit and marked the beginning of large-scale cadre-building.

Modi taught cadres to work systematically and in an organised manner. For example, participants of the RSS training camp held at P.D. Malaviya College in Rajkot in the early 1980s still recall how he had them conduct a survey among locals to assess the organisation's image and present the results using statistical methods. This was not only an innovative learning exercise but also a message that modern techniques and systematic thinking were essential to strengthening the organisation.

He inspired cadres with practical examples of behaviour and etiquette. Small habits — such as being organised, knocking on doors before entering, and warmly enquiring after the well-being of family members — turned them into responsible and respected workers. His training moulded cadres not just as members of the organisation but as model representatives in society. Modi also extended personal moral support to cadres and their families during tough times and unfortunateincidents — something many workers still remember with gratitude.

When he became the organisation secretary of Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in Gujarat in 1987, he carried forward the same practice of cadre-building in the political sphere. Through the BJP's 'Organisation Festival' during the 1980s, thousands of new cadres were drawn into the party.

CADRES FILLED WITH DISCIPLINE, DEDICATION, AND A SPIRIT OF SERVICE, KEEP NATIONAL INTEREST ABOVE ALL ELSE IN ANY CIRCUMSTANCE. THIS IS WHY TODAY THE ORGANISATION IS NOT JUST A POLITICAL POWER BUT A VIBRANT CULTURAL CONSCIOUSNESS

Discipline and accountability formed the foundation of Modi's working style. He taught cadres that these values, along with dedication, are the cornerstones of a strong organisation. He himself never came late to meetings, not even by a minute, and if anyone else arrived late, he would make them stay outside and still participate.

Modi also gave new direction to both social balance and electoral strategy within the organisation. While selecting office-bearers, he ensured social inclusivity. In the 1987 Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation elections, with his 'Win the Booth' strategy, cadres became active at the grassroots and worked with a focused approach.

Additionally, through his personal conduct, Modi instilled confidence and capacity in cadres. He would reassure first-time entrants into the party and explain the significance of booth-level organisation, membership details, and collective effort. As a result, within just a few months, lakhs of new members were enrolled and strong cadres were raised. As BJP's organisation secretary, he also initiated 'Tiffin Meetings', through which cadres and their families were emotionally connected with the organisation.

In cadre-building, Modi did not restrict himself to structure and strategy alone. He taught cadres to become sensitive and farsighted leaders. He urged senior cadres to cooperate with juniors and to take responsibility. Balanced responses to criticism and restraint in the face of praise — these were integral parts of Modi's cadre-building strategy.

Modi's perspective has always been clear: the true strength of the organisation lies in its cadres. Cadres filled with discipline, dedication, and a spirit of service, keep national interest above all else in any circumstance. This is why today the organisation is not just a political power but a vibrant cultural consciousness. His journey of cadre-building conveys a lasting message to future generations: if the roots are nurtured, the branches will naturally blossom and the tree will stand strong for ages.

Fake call centres duping UK nationals busted in Nashik, 2 arrested: CBI

MUKESH RANJAN @ New Delhi

THE Central Bureau of Investigation has dismantled two illegal call centres based in Nashik, which were allegedly involved in online frauds by cheating UK nationals by taking payments for non-existent insurance policies, posing as agents and government officers, officials said Sunday.

After raiding the call centre premises, the agency sleuths arrested Ganesh and Shyam Kamankar for their alleged involvement in the operations of the entity named Swagan Business Solutions Pvt. Ltd, they said, adding that a case was registered against four private persons, unknown public servants and others, on allegations that they cheated UK nationals by posing as insurance agents and government authorities.

According to the officials, during the search operations the CBI sleuth seized a number of documents, which revealed that the call centres had 60 staffers, who used Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) technology, spoofed phone numbers and forged different kinds of papers to trick individuals into disclosing their credit and debit card details.

The investigation further established that the UK-based victims were allegedly coerced into making payments for insurance policies that did not exist, the officials said, adding that the proceeds of the alleged fraud were siphoned off through PayPal and traditional banking channels.

"Searches were conducted by CBI sleuths at various places in Nashik and Kalyan in Thane district, which led to the recovery of incriminating digital evidence, including data relating to victims, fake insurance policy documents, eight mobile phones, eight computer systems and servers and unexplained cash of Rs 5 lakhs,"a senior CBI official said, adding that the arrested accused were produced before a local court, which sent them to the agency's custody till Monday.

NIA files chargesheet in Amritsar temple attack

The NIA has filed a charge sheet against three individuals for their alleged involvement in the Amritsar temple grenade attack in March this year, officials said on Sunday. The accused are identified as Vishal Gill alias Chuchi, Bhagwant Singh alias Manna Bhatti and Diwan Singh alias Sunny. They have been formally charged for their roles in conspiracy and execution.

Navy to bolster anti-sub prowess in Indian Ocean

Move to counter threat from growing Pak-China maritime ties

MAYANK SINGH @ New Delhi

THE Indian Navy is set to add to its fleet another anti-submarine warfare shallow water craft 'Androth', second of the eight ASW SWCs (Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft), built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE), Kolkata.

Calling the step important, a source said, "The focus on the anti-submarine warfare is conspicuous with the Navy's planned induction of 16 ASW-SWCs, the six P-8I Poseidon, and more UAVs and Drones for the purpose."

The Navy commissioned the first of the 16 Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASW-SWC), INS Arnala, at the Naval Dockyard, Visakhapatnam, in June. Eight more ASW-SWC warships are being constructed by Cochin Shipyard Limited, Kochi.

The indigenous defence manufacturing augments the anti-submarine warfare capabilities of the Navy. The contract for the 16 craft was signed in April 2019, to strengthen Navy's Anti-submarine, coastal surveillance and mine laying capabilities.

The name 'Androth', GRSE in its statement said, holds strategic and symbolic significance, derived from the Androth Island in the Lakshadweep archipelago, underscoring India's commitment to safeguarding its vast maritime territories.

"These ships approx 77 m in length, are the largest Indian Naval warships propelled by a Diesel Engine-Waterjet combination and are equipped with state-of-the art lightweight torpedoes, Indigenous ASW rockets, advanced shallow water SONAR, enabling effective submarine detection and engagement in littoral zones", said GRSE.

The worry, as earlier brought out by this newspaper, remains that over the years, Pakistan and China have been adding strength to their capabilities, including the underwater. Importantly, in August, Pakistan inducted its third of the eight Chinese manufactured modern Hangor Class submarines which is Air Independent Propulsion equipped.

Meanwhile, the Indian Navy is concerned that its platforms are reaching obsolescence; therefore, the new additions should not only replace the older ones but also increase the overall numbers.

The Chinese PLA Navy, with over 360 warships and submarines, has become the largest navy in the world, with an increased presence in maritime bodies around the globe, including the Indian Ocean, while the Indian Navy's total fleet strength is over 130.

The Indian Navy's submarine's underwater fighting capabilities, even after the addition of six indigenously manufactured Scorpene-class submarines, are plagued by obsolete boats (submarines). Although new boats have been added and newprojects are in the pipeline, the Navy's submarine arm has been plagued by obsolescence and is operating 12 vintage submarines.

INSIDER TRACK

Dynasty Returns in Bihar Polls

Bihar, headed into polls this October and November, is abuzz with talk of political dynasties staging a comeback. Sons, grandsons, a granddaughter, and even a daughter-in-law of seven former chief ministers — plus the son of the current CM Nitish Kumar — are tipped to test their fortunes. Nishant Kumar, Nitish's son, may contest despite his father's aversion to dynastic politics. From the RJD camp, Tej Pratap Yadav could follow his brother Tejashwi's footsteps into the Assembly. Nitish Mishra, son of late CM Jagannath Mishra, is eyeing Jhanjharpur on a BJP ticket, while Karpoori Thakur's granddaughter Dr. Jagriti could enter from Jan Suraj. Speculation swirls around Lalu's estranged daughter-in-law, Aishwarya Rai. She is also the granddaughter of the late CM Daroga Prasad Rai. Bihar's political battleground, it seems, will echo with many "family voices" this time. Deepa Manjhi, daughter-in-law of former CM and Union minister Jitan Ram Manjhi, has plans to contest from a seat in Gaya district. Nikhil Mandal, grandson of the late CM, B.P. Mandal, and S.K. Singh, son of the late CM, Satish K. Singh, are also likely candidates.

V-P's Oath Sparks Superstition Talk

When CP Radhakrishnan took the oath as India's 15th Vice-President last Friday, his red shirt caught as much attention as the timing of the ceremony. It fell squarely within Pitra Paksha, a fortnight that Hindus generally consider inauspicious for fresh beginnings. Whispers echo in political corridors — was this an oversight, or a calculated choice? Some argue the Sun's strength, symbolised by red, shields the V-P from ill effects. Others recall that the previous V-P, Jagdeep Dhankhar, resigned suddenly, sparking murmurs about "vastu" flaws in the Vice-President's new enclave. While most dismiss it as superstition, the chatter persists: did the RSS-linked V-P deliberately align with astrological counsel, or did faith give way to formality? In Delhi's political grapevine, even timing becomes destiny.

RJD, LJP Flex Poll Muscles

As Bihar heads to the polls, two regional parties — the RJD and the LJP (RV) — are making their senior partners uneasy. Both have hinted they could contest all 243 seats, sending a subtle warning to allies. Tejashwi Yadav's remark, "ready to contest from 243 seats," was read as a nudge to the Congress, whose presence in Bihar politics has faded to the margins. Chirag Paswan of LJP (RV), meanwhile, continues to style himself as "Modi's Hanuman", asserting his party's readiness to go it alone if needed. Yet, with equal ease, he tempers his tone: "Being in alliance means contesting on all seats." Behind the smiles and slogans, the message is clear — in Bihar's high-stakes chessboard, regional players want to be treated as equals.

Railways Key to 2029 Campaign Pitch

The BJP seems to be scripting its 2029 campaign on the steel backbone of Indian Railways. Party leaders speak of "railing the Opposition through railways". It is learnt that the massive work being carried out by Indian Railways is intended to be one of the main USPs in 2029 — connecting areas long bereft of rail services, and running trains to reach the pulse of common people who, until now, lacked railway connectivity. Projects in previously inaccessible areas, such as the Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla link in Jammu and Kashmir, the Bairabi-Sairang line in Mizoram, the Ratlam-Nagda upgrade in Madhya Pradesh, and the Bhagalpur-Dumka-Rampurhat stretch in Jharkhand, are likely to be among the headline achievements. The political message is simple: connecting villages and towns equals connecting voters.

Simian Trouble in Power Corridors

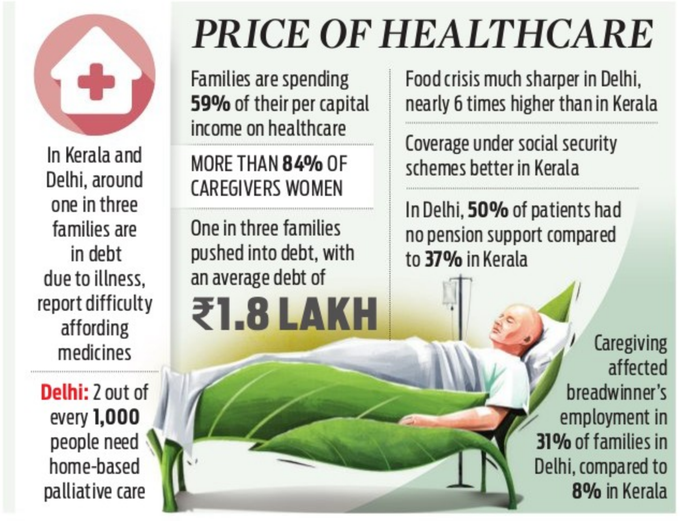
For decades, bureaucrats in Delhi's high-security North and South Blocks had unlikely co-workers — monkeys. From stealing files to startling diplomats, the simians became part of Raisina Hill lore. However, with ministries shifting out, no more guarding tiffins or shooing away troops of langurs mid-meeting. Yet, with the Blocks falling silent, a new worry rises. The colonial buildings are set to host artefacts in the upcoming Yuge Yugeen Bharat Museum. Officials fear the same monkeys, roaming unchecked, could damage priceless relics displayed in courtyards. From nuisance to heritage threat, the monkey saga has entered a new chapter.

Kartavya Bhawan Appeals to Some

While senior CSS officers may dislike the new, compact, open workstations at Kartavya Bhavan-3, junior staff find the relocation from North Block appealing. The latter appreciate its location near Janpath and Connaught Place, which provides them with convenient access to shopping during work breaks. At an informal briefing, Union Minister Jitendra Singh observed that younger employees seem content, possibly due to this proximity, countering assumptions of widespread dissatisfaction with the move.

Need palliative care policy as illness, caregiving burden families: Study

KAVITA BAJELI-DATT @ New Delhi


PRICE OF HEALTHCARE
In Kerala and Delhi, around one in three families are in debt due to illness, report difficulty affording medicines
Families are spending 59% of their per capital income on healthcare
MORE THAN 84% OF CAREGIVERS WOMEN
One in three families pushed into debt, with an average debt of
₹1.8 LAKH
Food crisis much sharper in Delhi, nearly 6 times higher than in Kerala
Coverage under social security schemes better in Kerala
In Delhi, 50% of patients had no pension support compared to 37% in Kerala
Caregiving affected breadwinner's employment in 31% of families in Delhi, compared to 8% in Kerala
Delhi: 2 out of every 1,000 people need home-based palliative care

SERIOUS illnesses, such as cancer and neurological disorders, not only affect patients but also burden families socially and financially, according to two studies examining home-based palliative care in Kerala and Delhi. These states, known for relatively better healthcare, still struggle with the financial and social consequences of caregiving.

The studies revealed that families often face agonizing choices between essential needs like medicines, food and education. Shockingly, about one in three families in both states fall into debt due to illness, highlighting a growing national issue of healthcare-related financial strain.

Dr Parth Sharma, author of the studies and public health researcher at the Association for Socially Applicable Research (ASAR), emphasised that palliative care is a vital lifeline. "Palliative care is not a luxury. It is a lifeline that can prevent families from spiralling into cycles of debt and suffering," he said.

The research, which surveyed 43,000 people in Delhi—making it the largest study in India and Asia—found that two out of every 1,000 people require home-based palliative care.

"Delhi urgently needs a palliative care policy. We now have a rough estimate that 50,000 to 75,000 people require home-based care in Delhi. A government-funded policy can effectively cater to the needs of this population," Sharma said.

Financial hardships were particularly severe in Delhi, where families spent 59% of their per capita income on healthcare, and one in three families incurred an average debt of ₹1.8 lakh. Women, who shouldered 84% of the caregiving burden, were hit hardest.

In Kerala, chronic conditions like cancer and stroke accounted for most palliative care needs. In contrast, Delhi had a higher prevalence of neurological disorders. While Kerala's robust social security net provided some relief, Delhi faced a dire lack of support, with half of patients receiving no pension.

Ex-IAS officer Amit Khare who exposed fodder scam appointed Secretary to V-P

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @ New Delhi

AMIT Khare, a retired bureaucrat from the Jharkhand cadre of the IAS, who played a key role in exposing the infamous fodder scam in undivided Bihar, has been appointed Secretary to the newly elected Vice-President, CP Radhakrishnan.

Khare has previously served in several prominent positions at both the Central and State levels. The development comes a day after CP Radhakrishnan was sworn in as India's 15th V-P on September 12.

The Union Government's Appointments Committee of the Cabinet approved the appointment of the retired 1985-batch IAS officer from the Jharkhand cadre on Sunday.

According to the order issued by the Department of Personnel and Training, Khare's appointment will be on a contract basis, in the rank and pay of Secretary, for a period of three years from the date he assumes charge of the post.

Prior to this, Khare had been serving as Adviser to the Prime Minister in the PMO since October 12, 2021, handling matters related to the social sector.

Khare served the Government of India for six years as Joint Secretary, Higher Education (August 2008–August 2014), where he was responsible for matters related to UNESCO, education policy, and book promotion & copyrights. He also served as Secretary of the Human Resource Development Department in the Jharkhand Government, and as Vice-Chancellor of Ranchi University.

In 1995, while posted as DM in Chaibasa (now in Jharkhand), he had played a key role in exposing the infamous fodder scam. Apart from Khare, the goverment also appointed Chandrasekar S, IAS as Private Secretary to V-P. His tenure at LBSNAA as deputy director was curtailed to make this appointment.

ARRESTED

The boyfriend of a final-year female student of RG Kar Medical College and Hospital in Kolkata, who died under mysterious circumstances in a hospital in West Bengal's Malda, was arrested on Sunday.

1 WOMAN MAULED TO DEATH BY LEOPARD IN UP'S BIJNOR

INDIA	Max	Min		Max	Min
Ahmedabad	33	25	Mumbai	28	26
Bhopal	30	23	Panaji	29	26
Jaipur	33	25	Patna	29	27
Amritsar	33	26	Lucknow	32	26
Chennai	31	27	Port Blair	28	26
Kolkata	28	26	Imphal	25	22
Srinagar	28	17	Chandigarh	31	24

● Says Hindi should become language of science, judiciary & police

Hindi not in conflict with regional languages: Shah

DILIP SINGH KSHATRIYA
@ Ahmedabad

UNION Home Minister Amit Shah on Sunday said that there is no conflict between Hindi and other Indian languages. He called for Hindi to move beyond a spoken language and become the language of science, technology, justice, and policing.

Shah was speaking at the 5th Akhil Bharatiya Rajbhasha Sammelan on Hindi Diwas 2025 in Ahmedabad.

Launching tech-driven initiatives like the Bahubhashi Anuvad Saarthi and expanding the Hindi Shabd Sindhu dictionary, Shah said strengthening mother tongues and Hindi is crucial for India's journey towards self-reliance and cultural unity. On the occasion of Hindi Diwas, he made a powerful pitch for language-driven nation-building, urging Indians to embrace Hindi alongside their mother tongues to create a culturally united and self-reliant India.

Shah stressed that Hindi must evolve beyond just being a spoken or administrative language. "Hindi should become the language of science, technology, judiciary, and police," he asserted, arguing that only when governance and public services operate in Indian languages will there be a true connection with the people. He credited Prime Minister Narendra Modi for using technology to strengthen local languages and announced that the Bhartiya Bhasha Anubhag has been established in the Home Ministry to promote Hindi and other languages through scientific innovation. The highlight of Shah's address was the unveiling of Bahubhashi Anuvad Saarthi, an advanced translation platform designed to bridge communication gaps between

India's diverse linguistic regions. "Any state government can now write to the Union Home Ministry in its own language be it Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam, Bengali, Punjabi, or Marathi and our response will be translated back into that language using Saarthi," Shah said, emphasising its role in linguistic inclusivity.

Drawing parallels with Gujarat, where Gujarati and Hindi have coexisted harmoniously, Shah said leaders like Mahatma Gandhi, Dayanand Saraswati, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, and KM Munshi promoted Hindi without undermining local languages.

Shah urged parents to speak to children in their mother tongue, citing studies by psychologists and educationists.

Launches AI-driven translation application

Launching tech-driven initiatives like the Bahubhashi Anuvad Saarthi translation app and expanding the Hindi Shabd Sindhu dictionary, Shah said strengthening mother tongues and Hindi is crucial for India's journey towards self-reliance and cultural unity. On the occasion of Hindi Diwas, he made a pitch for language-driven nation-building.

● 'Double engine govt pursuing dreams of the great sons of Assam'

Modi slams Cong 'insult' to Hazarika over Bharat Ratna

PRASANTA MAZUMDAR @ Guwahati

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday slammed the Congress for "insulting" legendary singer-musician Bhupen Hazarika after he was bestowed the Bharat Ratna in 2019.

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge had questioned the central government for conferring Bharat Ratna on a "singer." Modi said CM Himanta Biswa Sarma showed him a video on Saturday night after they had attended a programme celebrating the birth centenary of Hazarika in Guwahati.

"I was hurt to listen to a statement by the Congress president. The day Government of India bestowed Bharat Ratna on Bhupen Da, the Congress president had made that statement. I did not notice it then," Modi said. "When someone is insulted, I cannot tolerate it. Tell me, if giving Bharat Ratna to Bhupen Da was right or wrong. Congress mocked Bharat Ratna to Hazarika. Was it not wrong?" the PM said.

"I know their ecosystem will go after me today – that Modi has started crying again...The people of Assam should ask for an explanation from Congress on why it insulted Bhupen Da," he further said.

The PM said the dreams envisioned by such great sons of Assam and by "our ancestors" are now being pursued with full sincerity by the double engine government.

Meanwhile, Modi praised Assam for its growth story. He said while India is currently the fastest-growing country in the world, Assam has emerged as one of the fastest-growing states in the nation.

He recalled that there was a time when Assam lagged behind in development and struggled to keep pace with the rest of the country. However, today, it is advancing with a growth rate of nearly 13%.

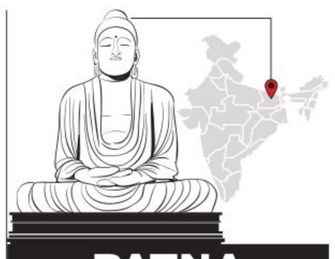
The PM described this as a major achievement and credited the success to the hard work of the people of Assam and the joint efforts of central and state governments. He expressed happiness that the people of Assam continued to strengthen this partnership.

PM Modi noted that this is why the chief minister and his team consistently received overwhelming public support in every election, the last being the panchayat election that BJP swept.

"With 25 years of the 21st century already passed, the next phase of this century belongs to the East and the Northeast", he said.

Inaugurates India's 1st bamboo-based ethanol plant

PM Narendra Modi on Sunday inaugurated India's first bamboo-based ethanol plant and laid the foundation stone for a polypropylene plant in Assam's Golaghat district. Addressing a gathering, he described the inauguration of the bioethanol plant as a matter of great pride for Assam. Modi said the two projects would boost industrial growth.



PATNA DIARY

RAMASHANKAR
Our correspondent in Bihar
ramashankar@newindianexpress.com

Wait for metro rail service comes to an end

The long wait for metro services in Bihar's capital is about to end, as Patna Metro Rail Corporation (PMRC) prepares to roll out the first phase of operations from New Inter State Bus Terminal to Boothnath Road. The Metro will operate daily from 8 am to 10 pm, with trains available at every 20 minutes, making 40-42 trips a day. The fare has been fixed at ₹15 from new ISBT to Zero Mile and ₹30 for the full stretch to Boothnath Road. The date for inauguration of Patna Metro, with estimated cost of ₹13,925.5 crore, will be formally announced soon. The complete rollout of the first phase is expected by 2027.

Tej embarks on relief mission on Tejashwi turf

RJD supremo and former Bihar CM Lalu Prasad's estranged son, Tej Pratap Yadav, visited the Diara area of Raghopur in Vaishali district by boat and distributed dry ration, medicines, and essential items among the flood affected people. His gesture has, however, raised eyebrows in the RJD camp as Raghopur is represented by his younger brother, Tejashwi Prasad Yadav, who is vying for the post for chief minister. Tej Pratap also brought a team of doctors who conducted health checks on the flood hit people. Tej Pratap, who was expelled from RJD and family by Lalu, also deployed five additional boats to assist those in distress.

RJD turns down AIMIM's request to join INDIA

The Asasuddin Owaisi-led AIMIM is once again set to emerge as a factor in Assembly elections. While the party claims to have made an impact in the state, it is, like in the past, concentrating its efforts on the Seemanchal region, comprising Kishanganj, Katihar, Araria and Purnea districts. Though AIMIM made umpteen attempts in the past to be party of INDIA bloc, RJD is not inclined to include it in opposition alliance. AIMIM Bihar chief Akhtarul Iman made an abortive attempt to meet RJD supremo Lalu Prasad at the latter's residence in Patna recently. When Lalu refused to meet Iman, he blamed RJD's 'wrong politics' to make BJP stronger.

5.8-magnitude earthquake jolts Assam, Bengal

PRASANTA MAZUMDAR @ Guwahati

AN earthquake of 5.8 magnitude struck Assam on Sunday at 4:58 pm, leaving residents to scamper out of their homes. It was felt in most states of the Northeast as well as Bengal.

At least two people were injured and scores of houses in Assam were damaged.

According to official sources, the epicentre of the quake was northern Assam's Udalguri bordering Bhutan.

Taking to X, Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma posted, "An earthquake struck Assam today. The epicentre was near Udalguri. So far, there has been no report of any major damage or loss of life. We are actively monitoring the situation."

Videos of residents narrating their experience went viral on social media. A man from Udalguri recalled, "If this continued for a little more time, it could have been devastating. I was never such terrified."

Swapan Das, a resident of Rangapara, which is located more than 50 km from the epicentre, said he felt it was the last day of his life. "I was at my bookstall and we all traders ran out. I thought we all would die today. My legs are still shaking," he told this newspaper.

Indian women trafficked to Malaysia on visa-free entry

HARPREET BAJWA @ Chandigarh

AFTER the gulf countries, now Malaysia has earned the dubious reputation as a destination where women from India, particularly from Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Punjab, Kerala and Uttar Pradesh, are lured by travel agents with the promise of legitimate domestic work.

Several of these women enter the country through a visa-free entry route, only to find themselves entrapped. They are forced to live and work in an environment that is both unstable and precarious.

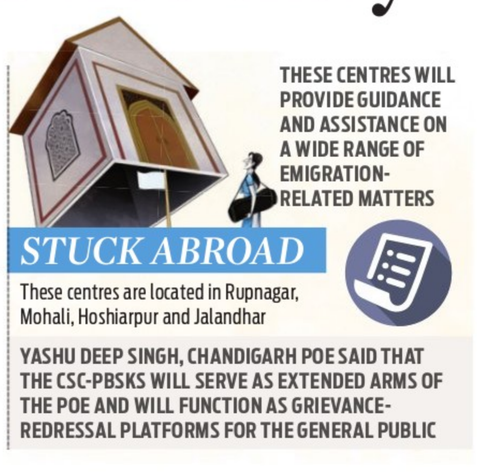
In an advisory issued on September 9, the High Commission of India, Kuala Lumpur (Labor Wing) said that the majority of the affected individuals are unskilled and semi-skilled labourers and hail from several states in India, including Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Punjab, Kerala and UP. They are invariably misled with false promises of employment by unscrupulous agents in India and Malaysia.

It added that the passengers devised by agents should be encouraged to provide full details of such agents with authorities concerned for appropriate action.

According to sources, in July, a 39-year-old woman from India who was beaten, locked in a hotel room and forced into prostitution was rescued during a raid by the Malaysian police in the city centre Kuala Lumpur. She had arrived in Malaysia on July 11 after being promised work as a domestic helper, only to be held captive and exploited.

Yashu Deep Singh, Protector of Emigrants, Chandigarh, told this newspaper that earlier reports were being received regarding women being rescued from Gulf countries who had paid around ₹50,000 to ₹1 lakh to the agents based in Dubai on tourist visa to Dubai and pushed further to other countries like Oman and exploited.

"We are getting reports of 20 to 30 such cases per year from Consulate General of India, Dubai. However once these rescued women are repatriated, they do not lodge complaints against the unscrupulous agents, which is necessary to initiate action against such agents. The advisory from High Commission of India, Kuala Lumpur is also on these lines to avoid the trap of unscrupulous agents and always rely on Ministry approved recruiting agents for overseas employment opportunities," he added.


Five Common Service Centre-Pravasi Bharatiya Sahayata Kendras (CSC-PBSKs) have been established in Punjab by the Protector of Emigrants (PoE)
They will provide citizen-friendly eMigrate web portal-related services and strengthen outreach to aspiring youth at the grassroots level
THESE CENTRES WILL PROVIDE GUIDANCE AND ASSISTANCE ON A WIDE RANGE OF EMIGRATION-RELATED MATTERS
STUCK ABROAD
These centres are located in Rupnagar, Mohali, Hoshiarpur and Jalandhar
YASHU DEEP SINGH, CHANDIGARH POE SAID THAT THE CSC-PBSKS WILL SERVE AS EXTENDED ARMS OF THE POE AND WILL FUNCTION AS GRIEVANCE-REDRESSAL PLATFORMS FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC

Bhagwat: Nation remains on path of development, proves predictions wrong

ANURAAG SINGH @ Bhopal

RSS Chief Mohan Bhagwat on Sunday said that India is steadily moving forward on the path of development, defying global predictions made at the time of Independence.

"India has defied predictions of failure by drawing strength from the trinity of Gyan, Karma and Bhakti (knowledge, action and devotion) that has been handed down through faiths and communities," Bhagwat said in Indore, while releasing 'Parikrama Kripa Saar', a book by former union minister and Madhya Pradesh cabinet minister Prahlad Singh Patel based on his Narmada Parikrama Yatra three decades ago.

He recalled how global leaders, including former British Prime Minister Winston Churchill, had predicted that India would not survive as a unified nation after the end of British rule. "However, India proved them wrong by remaining united and resilient," he said. He noted that while Churchill believed India would collapse into division and chaos, it is now England itself that faces internal challenges, while India continues to progress and stay united.

Bhagwat added that though the country had been divided in the past, it is now on the path to restoring unity and collective strength.

He underlined that India had led the world for nearly 3,000 years without suppressing other nations or erasing identities. "Despite leadership, our country never conquered or converted. There were continuous dialogue and respect for diversity, something missing in today's world," he said. The RSS chief also emphasised environmental conservation as central to sustainable growth.

The event drew a prominent gathering, including MP CM Dr Mohan Yadav, Vidhan Sabha Speaker Narendra Singh Tomar and other senior ministers and BJP leaders.

JUNGLE WARFARE SCHOOL TO COME UP IN RED CORRIDOR

MAYANK SINGH @ New Delhi

THE government has decided to set up a 'jungle warfare school' at Karreguta Hills in Chattisgarh's Bijapur district--once a stronghold of Maoists—to give specialised training to the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), Chhattisgarh Police, District Reserve Guard, Commando Battalion for Resolute Action (CoBRA), and other security forces.

"Instructions have been passed and the preparations have already started," multiple sources told this newspaper.

The Central government will construct the training school, while the state government will build the approach road and provide other basic facilities, a Chhattisgarh government official said.

Officials said the location of the school is significant as Karregutta Hills was "once considered the secure stronghold of Naxals". Karregutta was freed from the control of Naxals through a special CRPF-led operation early this year. The operation, launched on April 21, lasted for 21 days and led to the killing of 31 Naxals.

The lessons drawn during the operation will serve to update the operational tactics, sources said. "The personnel of the CRPF, Special Task Force, and the DRG carried out 'cave intervention' extensively. So, it will be part of the training at the school," they added.

Since the institute is being raised in the actual setting, the forces are expected to have a major positive effect on the training.

Karregutta is a strategically unique, tough and inaccessible terrain stretching for over 60 km with widths ranging from 10-20 km across the hilly region. The hills stand at an altitude of 5,000 metres and remain inaccessible even for a majority of the local population.

The area is dotted with caves, waterfalls, and narrow valleys at the core of the hills, and have been said to house the camps and arms manufacturing units of the Naxals. The CRPF is the lead force deployed in counter insurgency, counter terrorism, and Left-wing extremism (LWE). Around 100 battalions, including COBRA units, of the 3.25-lakh strong force are currently deployed for LWE operations.

EXPRESS READ

Bodo youths lead drive to reclaim forest cover

IMPHAL: Assam's Bodoland Territorial Region (BTR) government has embarked on a drive to reverse forest cover loss, designating 360 youth clubs as "Green Brigades" to spearhead afforestation and eco-friendly initiatives. The programme forms part of the Green Bodoland Mission, launched by the BTR administration in response to global warming and the steady decline of forest resources. Officials said the mission has already planted over 3.2 lakh saplings, ranging from flowering and fruit-bearing species to timber and medicinal plants, across community and forest lands. Manoranjan Das, director of Green Bodoland Mission, said the effort was necessitated by alarming data showing a 14% loss of forest cover in Bodoland, equivalent to nearly 44,000 hectares. "Deforestation and encroachment are primary reasons. Involving youth clubs improves the survival chances of plantations, which is usually very low," Das said. About 6,000 volunteers are now actively engaged.

Invite for 'nude party' in Raipur sparks outrage, seven linked to bash arrested

EJAZ KAISER @ Raipur

A poster for a "nude party" on social media platforms, attracting young men and women to a high-profile gathering in Chhattisgarh capital, generated much disquiet and controversy, prompting the Raipur police to arrest seven people associated with organising the event.

Those arrested, including the organisers who also promoted the gathering as 'Stranger House-Pool party'', were associated with Hyper Club and SS Farm in Raipur. They were interrogated and later arrested. The party planned at a private farmhouse on September 21 stands cancelled. Two FIRs have been lodged in the case. Reports stated that the artists from Mumbai and Bangalore were also lined-up for the party.

Many cited the move as an attempt to start off in Raipur an 'indecent get-together culture' commonly seen in places in Europe and the US. Criticism began pouring in from the politicians too who sought immediate ban on any such emerging 'bad party' trend and a stringent action against the organisers.

The party, according to sources, was to be held privately with entry permitted to only limited people. The entire programme was kept so confidential that information about the venue got shared only in private with registered members. Outsiders were strictly prohibited once the registration process was to end. Mobile phones weren't allowed. The organisers are also suspected to be a part of some drug cartel supplying it for flagrant abuse often seen in high profile parties.

The entry fee for the event was fixed at ₹40,000 per individual along with few offers. Some couples reportedly agreed to cough up even ₹1 lakh. "We are investigating in-depth why such a party was planned and those behind it. It can never be allowed", said Lal Umed Singh, Raipur senior superintendent of police.

"It's shocking and shameful, a nude party as a private gathering organised for the first time in Chhattisgarh under the BJP regime", said Deepak Baij, state Congress president.

The state BJP too condemned the move. "We are worried about youths planning to be a part of such an event that should not be allowed in future. The Congress should avoid doing politics on the sensitive issue", said Shyam Behari Jaiswal, state health minister.

3,723
who had escaped from Nepal's jails during protests, have been re-arrested, police said

GLOBAL WEATHER
LR: Light Rain • HR: Heavy Rain • LS: Light Snow • TDS: Thundershower • LC: Light Cloud • SNY: Sunny

Beijing	29	19	SNY	Los Angeles	32	19	SNY
Colombo	29	25	TDS	Melbourne	17	5	LC
Dhaka	33	25	TDS	Moscow	28	13	SNY
Dubai	44	28	SNY	New York	26	15	SNY
Houston	30	23	TDS	Singapore	32	25	TDS
Istanbul	33	21	SNY	Toronto	23	13	SNY
London	20	13	SNY	Washington	26	14	SNY

Jets scrambled as Russian drone enters Romania

Second NATO member to report airspace violation by Moscow in less than a week

BUCHAREST

ROMANIA'S defence ministry said Saturday that the country's airspace had been breached by a drone during a Russian attack on infrastructure in neighbouring Ukraine.

NATO member Romania has had several drone fragments crash on its territory since Moscow invaded Ukraine, especially as Russia has stepped up attacks on Ukrainian ports.

In a statement following the drone entry on Saturday, Romania's defence ministry said it "strongly condemns the irresponsible actions of the Russian Federation and emphasizes that they represent a new challenge to regional security and stability in the Black Sea area." It added that "such incidents demonstrate the Russian Federation's lack of respect for international law".

Romania reported late Saturday that its airspace had been breached by a drone during a Russian attack in neighbouring Ukraine. The country scrambled two F-16 fighter jets, which "detected a drone in national airspace" and tracked it until it dropped off the radar, the defence ministry said.

In its statement, the ministry said that a "Geran drone used by" Russia had entered Romanian airspace.

It added that the drone "orbited for about 50 minutes, from northeast of (the village of) Chilia Veche to southwest of Izmail, and left national airspace near the town of Pardina, heading towards Ukraine".

Romania's fighter jets were "supported by German allies... with two Eurofighter Typhoon aircraft", which monitored the situation. The drone did not fly over populated areas and did not pose an imminent threat to the safety of the population, said the statement.

Romania's Foreign Minister Toiu Oana said on X that she will "raise Russia's actions at (the) UN General Assembly, urging a strict international adherence to sanctions".

In February, the Romanian parliament adopted a law that makes it possible for the country to shoot down drones breaching its airspace.

The European Union's foreign policy chief Kaja Kallas on Sunday slammed as "unacceptable" the entry of a Russian drone into Romanian airspace, accusing Moscow of a "reckless escalation".

"The violation of Romanian airspace by Russian drones is yet another unacceptable breach of an EU member state's sovereignty," Kallas wrote on X. "This continued reckless escalation threatens regional security. We stand in solidarity with Romania. I am in close contact with the Romanian government." *AFP*

A Romanian Air Force F-16 during an air show in Romania last month | AP

Will heed to the demands of Gen Z, says Nepal's new PM

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ New Delhi

NEPAL'S newly appointed interim Prime Minister Sushila Karki on Sunday vowed to act on the demands of youth-led protesters, pledging to prioritise anti-corruption, good governance and economic justice during her 'six-month' tenure.

Speaking publicly for the first time since taking office on Friday, Karki said her government would reflect the aspirations of the "Gen Z generation", whose mass protests led to the fall of the previous administration earlier this week. She also made it clear that she would not be in office for more than six months.

> **What this group (Gen Z) is demanding is the end of corruption, good governance, and economic equality. You and I have to be determined to fulfil that**
>
> Sushila Karki, Nepal PM

"We have to work according to the thinking of the Gen Z generation," Karki said. "What this group is demanding is the end of corruption, good governance and economic equality."

Karki, 73, a former Chief Justice of Nepal, was appointed interim Prime Minister following three days of negotiations at the Presidential Palace, Sheetal Niwas, after protests erupted on 8 September in response to a government-imposed ban on social media platforms. The demonstrations escalated into widespread unrest, resulting in the deaths of 72 people, including three police personnel, and damage to key state institutions, which was set on fire.

"I did not wish for this job," Karki said. "It was after voices from the streets that I was compelled to accept." She said she would serve only as a caretaker Prime Minister and would step down after general elections scheduled for 5 March 2026.

Addressing the violence during protests, Karki said she was "ashamed" of the destruction but emphasised her commitment to those who took to the streets.

"If they were Nepalis who destroyed these essential structures, how can they be called Nepalis?" she said.

ASIA MATTERS

CONTROVERSIAL NICKEL MINE REOPENS

The Indonesian government has allowed a nickel mining company to resume operations in an eastern archipelago, a minister said on Sunday, despite an outcry over damage it could cause to pristine islands. Environmental Minister Hanif Faisol Nurofiq said Gag Nikel has received a "green" rating from the government. "We have once again reviewed all our data related to mining operations at Gag Nikel... An environmental audit was conducted to ensure that the impact caused by Gag Nikel can be properly mitigated," he told reporters in Bali on Sunday.

Ukraine strikes large oil refinery in Leningrad

MOSCOW

UKRAINIAN drones have struck one of Russia's largest oil refineries, sparking a fire, Russian officials and Ukraine's military said Sunday.

The overnight strike on the Kirishi refinery, in Russia's northwestern Leningrad region, follows weeks of Ukrainian attacks on Russian oil infrastructure that Kyiv says fuels Moscow's war effort. The facility, operated by Russian company Surgutneftegas, produces close to 17.7 million metric tons per year of crude, and is one of Russia's top three by output.

More than three years since Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine, drones continue to be a key weapon for both sides. Multiple Russian drones crossed into Poland on Wednesday, prompting NATO to send fighter jets to shoot them down and underlining long-held concerns that the fighting might spill over beyond Ukraine's borders.

According to Ukraine's General Staff, explosions and a fire were reported at the Kirishi refinery.

It posted a photo appearing to show a blaze and clouds of smoke against a night sky.

Regional Governor Alexander Drozdenko said that three drones were downed overnight in the Kirishi area, with falling debris sparking a fire at the facility. He said that no one was injured, and the blaze was put out.

As of Sunday afternoon, Russian officials offered no further comment on the consequences of the strike, and it wasn't immediately possible to verify these. At least 80 Ukrainian drones were shot down overnight over Russia, the annexed Crimean Peninsula and the adjacent Sea of Azov, according to the Russian Defense Ministry.

Ukrainian drones previously targeted the Kirishi refinery in March, causing minor damage, according to social media posts published at the time by Drozdenko. *AP*

THE ALL-NEW
TNIE
THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS
APP
SCAN THE QR CODE TO DOWNLOAD THE APP
GET IT ON Google Play | Download on the App Store
STAY UP-TO-DATE WITH THE LATEST NEWS

PUBLIC NOTICE

LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is for the notice of the General Public that Dr. Sanjay V Kulkarni, S/o. Venkata Rao Kulkarni, Aged about 61 years, R/at No. 16, AECS Layout, 2nd Main, 3rd Cross, RMV 2nd Stage, Sanjaynagar, Bengaluru-560094, is the owner of property Flat No. 102 on the first floor in "KSN AIKYA HEIGHTS", constructed on Site No.43 and 49, New Municipal No. 19, PID No. 100-591-19, measuring 1350 Sqft and 304 Sqft situated at Lottegollahalli Village, Kasba Hobli, Bengaluru North Taluk as per the sale agreement dated 14-03-2011. Unfortunately, he has lost the original sale Agreement executed between M.Pradeep and Dr. Sanjay V Kulkarni dated 14-03-2011. Any body having the custody of the said document is requested to hand over the same to the undersigned within a period of ten days from the date of publication of this public notice.

Dr. Sanjay V Kulkarni,
No.16, AECS Layout, 2nd Main, 3rd Cross, RMV 2nd Stage, Sanjaynagar, Bengaluru, Karnataka-560094. M: 9740362537

IN THE COURT OF THE 2nd ADDITIONAL CITY CIVIL AND SESSIONS JUDGE, (CCH-17) AT BANGALORE

LAC NO.10 OF 2020

Between;

Sri. Narayanappa ...**Claimants**

And;

The SLAO, K.H.B, Bangalore -

...**Respondents**

NOTICE/SUMMONS TO THE CLAIMANT No.1

Claimant No. 01:
Sri N. Narayanappa
S/o Late Narasimhaiah,
Residing at Byalalu Village,
Tavarekere Hobli,
Bangalore South Taluk,
Bangalore Urban Distruct-562130.

Whereas the above respondent has made a reference before this court under section 77(1) of RFCTLA Act, 2013 in the land acquisition case No.KHB/LAQ/5/2010-11 in respect of Survey No. 47/75, measuring 0-14 Guntas of Byalalu Viilage, Tavarekere Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bengaluru District vide declaration No.RD:204: Bhu, Swa, Be 2012 dated 27-11-2012. The awarded amount has been deposited before this court for apportionment.

That the above case is posted on 17/9/2025 at 11.00 a.m. The claimant No.1 you are hereby summoned to appear in this court in person or through an advocate duly instructed by you, which the above case will be determined in your absence by placing exparte.

Given under my hand and seal of this court on this **2nd day of July 2025.**

By the order of this court
Senior Shirastedar,
City Civil Court, Bengaluru

Advocate for Respondent
Ravindra H. T., Advocate,
No.105, AKV Chambers,
Ebrahim Saheb Street,
Shivajinagar, Bangalore-560001.
Ph: 98861 41141.
DIPR/CP/RO2790/AAPL/2025-26

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring to the notice of the General Public that **Mrs.Azara Ali Bazar, Mrs.Amina Ali Shaikh, Miss.Bushara Ali Shaikh**, all are children of late Ali Abdulla Shaikh, residing at No.127/A, 25th Cross, Rajajinagar 2nd Block, Bengaluru - 560 010, have agreed to sell the Schedule Property in favour of my clients **Mr.Nagabhushana M.T. and Mrs.Hima Bindu N.S.,** residing at No.6/1, 2nd Floor, 2nd Main, Juganahalli, 2nd Block, Near Kodandarama Temple, Rajajinagar, Bengaluru - 560 010, that any person/s, individual, institution, authorities, having any objections for the execution of the sale agreement or are having any right, title, interest or any type of claim over the schedule property is hereby called upon to file their objections/ claims whatsoever along with documentary proof within **7 days** from the date of publication of this notice with the under mentioned advocate with documentary proof, failing which, my client shall proceed to purchase schedule property and complete the sale transaction by entering into an Absolute Sale Deed in respect of the schedule property with the above stated person. My client shall not be liable or answerable for any claim put after the expiry of the aforesaid period.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the residential House Property bearing New Municipal No.30, (old No. 127/A), New No.188/30/127/A, PID No.15-18-30, New E-PID No.4517553974, measuring East to West 25 feet and North to South 56 feet, in all measuring 1400 sq. ft., along with residential building thereon, situated at Rajajinagar 2nd Block, 25th Cross, Bengaluru, BBMP Ward No.99, bounded on East by: House bearing No.127/B, West by: House bearing No.124/B, North by: House Property No.126/B, South by: Road.

H.A. Manjunatha Prasanna
M/S CHAMPS ASSOCIATES
Advocates & Solicitors
No.11, G6, V.M.C. Complex, 10th Cross, Cubbonpete, Bengaluru-560 002.
Phone No. 9663375969
Bangalore, Date: 13/09/2025

IN THE COURT OF THE 2nd ADDITIONAL CITY CIVIL AND SESSIONS JUDGE, (CCH-17) AT BANGALORE

LAC NO.14 OF 2020

Between;

Smt. Jayamma and another

...**Claimants**

And

The SLAO, K.H.B, Bangalore

...**Respondents**

NOTICE/SUMMONS TO THE CLAIMANT/OBJECTOR No.4

Objector No.04:
Smt B. Sarojamma
W/o K. Puttaramaiah
D/o Late Byrappa at
Chikkabyrappa,
R/at No. 801, Adjacent to
RVS College Compound,
Channasandra, Bangalore-560061.

Whereas the above respondent has made a reference before this court under section 77(1) of RFCTLA Act, 2013 in the land acquisition case No.KHB/LAQ/5/2010-11 in respect of Survey No. 47/64, measuring 0-14 Guntas of Byalalu Village, Tavarekere Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bengaluru District vide declaration No.RD:204: Bhu, Swa, Be 2012 dated 27-11-2012. The awarded amount has been deposited before this court for apportionment.

That the above case is posted on 17/10/2025 11.00 a.m. The Objector No.4 you are hereby summoned to appear in this court in person or through an advocate duly instructed by you, failing which the above case will be determined in your absence by placing exparte.

Given under my hand and seal of this court on this **5th day of August 2025.**

By the order of this court
Senior Shirastedar,
City Civil Court, Bengaluru

Advocate for Respondent
Ravindra H. T., Advocate,
No.105, AKV Chambers,
Ebrahim Saheb Street,
Shivajinagar, Bangalore-560001.
Ph: 98861 41141.
DIPR/CP/RO2790A/AAPL/2025-26

BEFORE THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-II
4th Floor, Telephone House
Rajbhavan Road, Bangalore-560001.

ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 191/2024

BETWEEN : STATE BANK OF INDIA, No. 11/90, 3rd Floor, Near Old Shivaji Theater, J.C. Road, Bangalore-560002. SARC Branch, Branch IFSC Code: SBIN0005173, SARC Branch, J.C. Road, Bangalore 560 002 represented by its Chief Manager, Sri. Narasimha Murthy .B
Email: sbi.05173@sbi.co.in ...**APPLICANT**
AND : 1. Mr. Vairamuthu P, S/o Pichamani, # 17/1, 2nd Floor, 2nd Cross, Saibaba Nagar, Ramachandrapuram, Bengaluru-560 021.
2. Smt. Sasikala D. W/o Vairamuthu, # 17/1, 2nd Floor, 2nd Cross, Saibaba Nagar, Ramachandrapuram, Bengaluru-560 021.
...**DEFENDANTS**

NOTICE ISSUED UNDER RULE 23 (VIII) OF THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE) RULES 1993

WHEREAS, the Applicant has instituted an application under Section 19 of the Recovery of the Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 against you for recovery of a sum of **Rs. 52,21,486/- (Rupees Fifty-Two Lakhs Twenty-One Thousand Four Hundred and Eighty-Six Only)** together with current and future interest and other reliefs. The above Defendant is therefore, hereby directed to be present before the Tribunal in person or through an advocate or through authorized agents in support of their defence to show cause within 30 days from the date of publication or **on 10.12.2025 at 10.30 A.M,** as to why reliefs prayed for should not be granted.

Take notice that, in default of your appearance on the day before mentioned, the application will be heard and determined in your absence.

GIVEN under my hand and the seal of this Tribunal, on this 25th day of August 2025.

Registrar,
Debts Recovery Tribunal-2, Bangalore.

BEFORE THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL - 2 AT BENGALURU
BSNL Building (Fourth Floor)
Telephone House, Raj Bhavan Road, Bengaluru-560001

O.A. NO. 1637/2023

BETWEEN: Deutsche Bank A.G., Raheja Towers, Ground, Floor, 26-27, MG Road, Bangalore - 560001 Rep. by its Manager Debt - Management and Power of Attorney holder, Mr. Ajay Singh T.S.,..... Applicants
and
M/s. Amshuman, and Others
...Defendents

Summons Issued To Defendants Under Rule 23 (viii) Of The Debts Recovery Tribunal (procedure) Rules 1993 By Paper Publication

To, D-1:- 1) M/s. Amshuman, represented by its Propretor Ms. Usha M Bhat., 71/2 8 Main Road, MSR Road, Mathikere Extn, SBI Mathikere, Bangalore - 560054. **2.** Ms. Usha M Bhat., D/o Srimathi, aged about 45 years, Proprietor M/s. Amshuman., 71/2 8 Main road, MSR Road, Mathikere Extn, SBI Mathikere, Bangalore - 560054. **Also at -** Ms. Usha M Bhat., 94, 3rd Cross, Sundarnagar, Gokula, MSRIT, Bangalore - 560054. **3.** Mr. Mahabaleshwara Bhat., s/o Gowramma, aged about 64 years, M/s. Amshuman., 71/2 8 Main Road, MSR Road, Mathikere Extn, SBI Mathikere, Bangalore - 560054. **Also** Mr. Mahabaleshwara Bhat., 94, 3rd Cross, Sundarnagar, Gokula, MSRIT, Bangalore - 560054.

Whereas the applicant has instituted an application under section 19 of the Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 against the Defendant for recovery of sum of **Rs.50,28,726.98 (Rupees Fifty Lakh Twenty-Eight Thousand Seven Hundred Twenty-Six and Ninety-Eight Paise Only** together with current and future interest and for other reliefs.

The above mentioned defendent is therefore hereby directed to appear before this Tribunal in Person or through an advocate, in support of his defense to show cause on **19.12.2025** at **10:30 A.M.** (Forenoon) as to why reliefs prayed for should not be granted.

Take notice that in case of default the application will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and the seal of this tribunal on this the **13 Day of August 2025.**

By order of Tribunal, Registrar
Debts Recovery Tribunal, Bangalore

BEFORE THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL - 2 AT BENGALURU
BSNL Building (Fourth Floor)
Telephone House, Raj Bhavan Road, Bengaluru-560001

O.A. NO. 1638/2023

BETWEEN: Deutsche Bank A.G., Raheja Towers, Ground, Floor, 26-27, MG Road, Bangalore - 560001 Rep. by its Manager Debt - Management and Power of Attorney holder, Mr. Ajay Singh T.S.,..... Applicants
and
M/s. Qthree Ventures., and Others
...Defendents

Summons Issued To Defendants Under Rule 23 (viii) Of The Debts Recovery Tribunal (procedure) Rules 1993 By Paper Publication

To, D-1:- 1) M/s. Qthree Ventures., represented by its Partners Mr. Karthik Shivan., Mr. Jubin Peter., No. 87, 27th Main Road, HSR 1st Sector, Bangalore - 560102. **D-2 - 2)** Mr. Karthik Shivan., S/o Uma Shivan, aged about 34 years, Partner M/s Qthree Ventures., No. 87, 27th main road, HSR, 1st Sector, Bangalore - 560102. **Also at** Mr. Karthik Shivan., JC 1703, Greenage, Salarporia, Bommanahalli, Hosur Road, Bangalore - 560068, **Also at-** Mr. Karthik Shivan. #002, 2nd main, 2nd cross near Royal; Conor, Chelikere, JR Layout, JR Arcade, Bangalore - 560043. **D-3 - 3.** Mr. Jubin Peter., S/o Elamma, aged about 39 years, Partner M/s Qthree Ventues., No.87 27th Main Road, HSR 1st Sector, Bangalore - 560102. **Also at** Mr. Jubin Peter., Bunglow A3/9, Sunder Nagar, Santacruz, 02(E), opp Gurudwara Kalina, Mumbai, Maharashtra - 400098 **Also at :** Mr. Jubin Peter., Pallupetta House, Perumbavoor, Rayonpuram, Ernakulam, Kerala - 683543.

Whereas the applicant has instituted an application under section 19 of the Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 against the Defendant for recovery of sum of **Rs.34,28,356.46 (Rupees Thirty Four Lakh Twenty Eight Thousand Three Hundred Fifty Six And Paise Forty Six Only)** together with current and future interest and for other reliefs.

The above mentioned defendent is therefore hereby directed to appear before this Tribunal in Person or through an advocate, in support of his defense to show cause on **19.12.2025** at **10:30 A.M.** (Forenoon) as to why reliefs prayed for should not be granted.

Take notice that in case of default the application will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and the seal of this tribunal on this the **13 Day of August 2025.**

By order of Tribunal, Registrar
Debts Recovery Tribunal, Bangalore

BEFORE THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL - 2 AT BENGALURU
BSNL Building (Fourth Floor)
Telephone House, Raj Bhavan Road, Bengaluru-560001

O.A. NO. 1629/2023

BETWEEN: Deutsche Bank A.G., Raheja Towers, Ground, Floor, 26-27, MG Road, Bangalore - 560001 Rep. by its Manager Debt - Management and Power of Attorney holder, Mr. Ajay Singh T.S.,..... Applicants
and
M/s. Sai Sri Enterprises., and Others
...Defendents

Summons Issued To Defendants Under Rule 23 (viii) Of The Debts Recovery Tribunal (procedure) Rules 1993 By Paper Publication

To, D-1 M/s. Sai Sri Enterprises., represented by its Proprietor Mr. Hennagara Srinivasa P., Sai Sri Nilaya, Site No. 1, Sy. No. 234, Nemmadhi, Extension 1, NR DLF, C/o Navya Layout, Mastenahalli Road, Jigani Bangalore, Karnataka - 560105. D-2 :- 2. Mr. Hennagara Srinivasa P., S/o Sarojamma, aged about 42 years, Proprietor M/s. Sai Sri Enterprises Sai Sri Nilaya, Site No. 1, Sy. No. 234, Nemmadhi, Extension 1, NR DLF, C/o Navya Layout, Mastenahalli Road, Jigani Bangalore, Karnataka - 560105. **Also at** Mr. Hennagara Srinivasa P., No. 116 Mastenahalli Road, Hennagara Jigani Bangalore, Karnataka - 560105. **D3 3.** Mrs. Lakshmi N, D/o Munirathanamma, aged about 38 years, M/s. Sai Sri Enterprises Sai Sri Nilaya, Site No. 1, Sy. No. 234, Nemmadhi, Extension 1, NR DLF, C/o Navya Layout, Mastenahalli Road, Jigani Bangalore, Karnataka - 560105. **Also at:-** Mrs. Lakshmi N No. 116 Mastenahalli Road, Hennagara Jigani Bangalore, Karnataka - 560105.

Whereas the applicant has instituted an application under section 19 of the Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 against the Defendant for recovery of sum of **Rs.43,02,264.10 (Rupees Forty Three Lakhs Two Thousand Two Hundred Sixty Four And Ten Paise Only)** together with current and future interest and for other reliefs.

The above mentioned defendant is therefore hereby directed to appear before this Tribunal in Person or through an advocate, in support of his defense to show cause on **19.12.2025** at **10:30 A.M.** (Forenoon) as to why reliefs prayed for should not be granted.

Take notice that in case of default the application will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and the seal of this tribunal on this the **13 Day of August 2025.**

By order of Tribunal, Registrar
Debts Recovery Tribunal, Bangalore

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General public is hereby informed that my clients **SRI. G.A.RAMESHA BABU** AND **SMT.SHARIMILA** are intending to purchase property bearing site No 221 bearing PID No 6000075103 measuring East to West 8.28 mts North to South (7.40 + 7.90)/2 totally measuring 63.34 sq mts, site No 223 bearing PID No 6000075104 measuring East to West (20.50 + 19.42)/2 mts North to South 9.15 mts totally measuring 182.63sq mts and Site No. 224, bearing PID No 6000075105 measuring East to West 18.35 mts North to South (10.15+12.60)/2 totally measuring 208.32 sq mts, situated at Byalakere Village, Hesargatta Hobbli, Bangalore North Taluk from its owner MRS. BONDALA VIJAYA.

If anybody is having any objection, claim, interest, dispute for the above intended sale transaction, he/she/they may contact the undersigned with documentary proof substantiating his/her/their objections/claims/details of dispute/s **within Seven(7) days** from the date of this publication, failing which, my client will proceed to complete the sale transaction with the above owners as if there are no third party interest/claims/objections/disputes in respect of the Schedule Property and thereafter no claims/objections/disputes will be entertained.

1.All that piece and parcel of property bearing site No 221 bearing PID No 6000075103 (Carved out of Sy No.39/1) Situated at Byalakere Village, Hesargatta Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk measuring East to West 8.28 mts North to South (7.40 + 7.90)/2 totally measuring 63.34 sq mts, layout duly approved by the BDA vide No.199/2015 dated 29.12.2015 and bounded on: **East by :** Site No.222, **West by :** Site No.218, **North by:** Road, **South by :** Site No.223

2.All that piece and parcel of property bearing site No 223, PID No 6000075104 (Carved out of Sy No.39/1) situated at Byalakere Village, Hesargatta Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk measuring East to West (20.50 + 19.42)/2 mts North to South 9.15 mts totally measuring 182.63sq mts, layout duly approved by the BDA vide No.199/2015 dated 29.12.2015 and bounded on: **East by :** Road, **West by :** Site No. 219 Road, **North by :** Site No.221 & 222, **South by:** Site No.224

3.All that piece and parcel of property bearing site No 224, PID No 6000075105 (Carved out of Sy No.39/1) situated at Byalakere Village, Hesargatta Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk measuring East to West 18.35 mts North to South (10.15+12.60)/2 totally measuring 208.32 sq mts, layout duly approved by the BDA vide No.199/2015 dated 29.12.2015 and bounded on: **East by :** Road, **West by :** Site No. 220, **North by :** Site No.223, **South by :** Road

Sd/- **Y. ESHWARAPPA**, Advocate
No.45, 1st Floor, Near Shree Sai Gold Palace, DVG Road, Basavanagudi, Bangalore-560004. Mob: 9980672574
Date: 13.09.2025

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General public is hereby informed that my clients **SRI. G.A.RAMESHA BABU** AND **SMT.SHARIMILA** are intending to purchase property bearing site No 218 bearing PID No 6000075100 measuring East to West 15.30 mts North to South 7.90 +8.43/2 totally measuring 124.9 sq mts, site No 219 bearing PID No 6000075101 measuring East to West 15.30 mts North to South 9.15 mts totally measuring 139.99 sq mts and Site No. 220, bearing PID No 6000075102 measuring East to West 15.30 mts North to South 12.60+15.00/2 totally measuring 211.14 sq mts, situated at Byalakere Village, Hesargatta Hobbli, Bangalore North Taluk from its owners MRS. BONDALA ALEKYA REDDY.

If anybody is having any objection, claim, interest, dispute for the above intended sale transaction, he/she/they may contact the undersigned with documentary proof substantiating his/her/their objections/claims/details of dispute/s **within Seven(7) days** from the date of this publication, failing which, my client will proceed to complete the sale transaction with the above owners as if there are no third party interest/claims/objections/disputes in respect of the Schedule Property and thereafter no claims/objections/disputes will be entertained.

1.All that piece and parcel of property bearing site No 218, PID No 6000075100 (Carved out of Sy No.39/1) Situated at Byalakere Village, Hesargatta Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk measuring East to West 15.30 mts North to South 9.15 mts totally measuring 139.99 sq mts layout duly approved by the BDA vide No.199/2015 dated 29.12.2015 and bounded on: **East by :** Site No.221, **West by:** Road, **North by:** Road, **South by :** Site No.219,

2.All that piece and parcel of property bearing site No 219, PID No 6000075101 (Carved out of Sy No.39/1) situated at Byalakere Village, Hesargatta Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk measuring East to West 15.30 mts North to South 9.15 mts totally measuring 139.99 sq mts layout duly approved by the BDA vide No.199/2015 dated 29.12.2015 and bounded on: **East by :** Site No.223, **West by :** Road, **North by :** Site No.218, **South by :** Site No.220

3. All that piece and parcel of property bearing site No 220, PID No 6000075102 (Carved out of Sy No.39/1) situated at Byalakere Village, Hesargatta Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk measuring East to West 15.30 mts North to South 12.60+15.00/2 totally measuring 211.14 Sq mts layout duly approved by the BDA vide No.199/2015 dated 29.12.2015 and bounded on: **East by:** Site No.224, **West by :** Road, **North by :** Site No.219, **South by :** Road

Sd/- **Y. ESHWARAPPA**, Advocate
No.45, 1st Floor, Near Shree Sai Gold Palace, DVG Road, Basavanagudi, Bangalore-560004. Mob: 9980672574
Date: 13.09.2025

ANDHRA PRADESH CAPITAL REGION DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (APCRDA)
Lenin Center, Governorpeta, Vijayawada-520002 (AP)

NIT No. 86/MAU61-USIOHB(BG)/16/2025-HB, Dt. 14-09-2025.

E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE

NAME OF THE WORK: "RFP for Providing house keeping services in the premises of APCRDA project office building, Rayapudi village, Amaravati"

The bid can be downloaded on AP e-procurement portal from **15.09.2025** to **29.09.2025** up to **14.00 Hrs**. Pre-Bid Meeting Date **19.09.2025** Due date for submission of Bid **29.09.2025** up to **15.00 Hrs**, Technical bid opening **29.09.2023@16.00Hrs**. For further details please refer to **www.apeprocurement.gov.in** and **www.crda.ap.gov.in**

Sd/- **Commissioner, APCRDA,** Vijayawada

CCH-8 **HG : 05.11.2025**

In the Court of the Honble XI Addl. City Civil and Sessions Judge, at Bengaluru. P & S.C. No. 277/2025

Between :
Kumari. Sharon Sannath Kumar, D/o. Shri Sannath Kumar, Aged above 31 Years, R/at No. 1, "Ujjalla", 7th Cross, 3rd Block, Near Food Corner, Dasappa Layout, Ramamurthy Nagar, Bangalore-560016. Petitioner

Nil **PUBLIC NOTICE** Respondent

Whereas the above named filed this petition under Section 276 of the Indian Succession Act, to Probate the Will dated 19.06.2012, of deceased Ujjala Ashok Mazumdar alias Ujjala Mazumdar in favour of Petitioner, in respect of the Schedule Properties described hereunder. Interest parties are hereby called upon to appear before this court in person or by pleader duly instructed on **05.11.2025 at 11 am,** inform to show cause against petitioner failing wherein appearance will be heard and declared as ex-parte.

SCHEDULE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY : All that piece and parcel of the residential property bearing Site No.1 and Southern portion of Site No. 2, Khatha No. 122/101/1/1-7, property No. 101/1, situated at Kowdenahalli, K.R. Puram Hobli, Bengaluru East Taluk, presently within the jurisdictional limits of Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike, Khatha No. 122, of Ward No. 25, 7th Cross, 3rd Block, Near Food Corner, Dasappa Layout, Ramamurthy Nagar, Bengaluru-560 016, measuring in total 1650 sq.ft and comprised of residential House and bounded on: East by: Private Property, West by: Road, North by: Remaining portion of Site No. 2, South by: Private Property.

Movable properties/Assets, i. Bank accounts

Sl .No.	Savings Bank A/c no.	Bank	Approx Balances available
1.	10768124962	State Bank of India	Rs.3,56,078.32/-
2.	10893019260	State Bank of India	Rs.54,985.86/-
3.	10258414731	State Bank of India	Rs.30,000/-

ii. Insurance Policies:

Sl. No.	Policy name and no.	Insurance Co.	Sum Assured
1.	New Jeevan Akshay Plan Policy No. 891123559	Life Insurance Corporation of India	Rs.1,00,000/-
2.	Jeevan Dhara Policy No. 906325644	Life Insurance Corporation of India;	Rs.1,11,928/-

iii. All Holdings in Shares, Bonds, Mutual funds etc, **iv.** All other immovable and/or movable assets which are not indicated in the Will are also bequeathed in favour of petitioner.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Court, this **29th day of August 2025.**

Adress for Service :
"Adwaya Associates", # 41/1, 2nd Floor, 2nd Main, 3rd Cross, Bazar Street, Chamarajpet, Bangalore-18.

By Order of the Court
Assistant Registrar / Senior Sheristedar
City Civil Judge, At Bangalore

All the news. In just a click. Log to www.newindianexpress.com | THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS | /thenewindianexpress @newindianexpress The New Indian Express | GET IT ON Google Play | Download on the App Store

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(THROUGH KPP PORTAL ONLY)

KPTCL invites bids for the following works:

No. CEE/Tr(Op)/SEE(O)/AE-2/NEL/F-482(2)/2025-26/5468 Dated : 11.09.2025

1) Bid Enquiry no. KPTCL/CEE/T(O)Z/BZ/PTK-18, for Supply, Erection and Commissioning of New Capacitor Banks of capacity 2X2.904MVAR at **66/11kV Kudur sub-station**, Magadi Taluk, Ramanagara District, coming under Operations Division, Nelamangala on **Partial Turnkey Basis** including supply of all matching materials/ equipments and erection (including civil works) of all materials/equipments, testing and commissioning.

No. CEE/Tr(Op)/SEE(O)/AE-2/BIAL/F-457(1)/2025-26/5469 Dated : 11.09.2025

2) Bid Enquiry no. KPTCL/CEE/T(O)Z/BZ/TTK-09 (CALL-I) for Replacement of 2x220V Battery Charger set at **220/66/11kV BIAL Begur R/s** in Operations Division BIAL Begur on **Total Turnkey Basis** including supply of all matching materials/equipments and erection (including civil works) of all materials/equipments, testing and commissioning.

No. CEE/Tr(Op)/SEE(O)/AE-2/BIAL/F-457(2)/2025-26/5470 Dated : 11.09.2025

3) Bid Enquiry no. KPTCL/CEE/T(O)Z/BZ/TTK-10 (CALL-I) for Replacement of 220kV Busbar Protection C&R Panel at **220/66/11kV BIAL Begur R/S** in Operations Division BIAL Begur on **Total Turnkey Basis** including supply of all matching materials/equipments and erection (including civil works) of all materials/equipments, testing and commissioning.

The Bids will be received through electronic tender mode only. The detailed notification regarding the subject enquiry in the E-tendering process can be obtained by logging on to KPP Portal website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** on or after **15.09.2025.** Other details can be obtained from the office of the undersigned.

Sd/- Chief Engineer (E&E),
Transmission (Operations) Zone, KPTCL,
A.R.Circle, Bengaluru-09

₹1.69L CR rise in combined market valuation of eight of the top-10 most valued companies last week

Why your I-T refund is getting delayed

One of the main reasons for delay is mismatch between tax amount claimed in returns and that in form 26AS

DIPAK MONDAL @ New Delhi

IT is now a known fact that income tax refunds are quick and fast, thanks to the use of technology by the tax department. It usually takes 4-5 weeks for the refunds to be credited to the account of the taxpayer. However, if you have not received refunds during this duration, it is likely that there are discrepancies in your I-T return. You should check email for any notification from the IT department regarding the refund.

Here are the steps taxpayers can take to expedite process.

Delayed verification of ITR

One of the primary reasons for delayed I-T refunds is when the filed return is not verified. After filing the return, it is crucial to complete verification process. The Tax Department only initiates the processing of returns once they have been verified. If you have filed return but neglected to verify it, the refund issuance process will not commence. The filing process is complete only after verification is done. The tax Department doesn't take up the returns for processing if they are not verified. If you have filed return but not verified, the return checking and refund process has not started.

Mismatch

Another common reason for refund delays is mismatch between the tax amounts claimed in returns and the information reflected in Form 26AS. Form 26AS is a statement that contains details of taxes deducted on behalf of taxpayer by various entities. If you have claimed credit for taxes paid, but the figures in Form 26AS

do not align with those in your returns, the Tax Department will raise a query.

"Taxpayers should respond to notices/queries promptly as failure to reply within prescribed time (usually 15 days) may result in return being treated as defective. Under law, this is seen as tax return was never filed that further leads to delaying/denial of tax refund," says Gaurav Makhijani, senior tax advisor Roedl & Partner. If one has tax demands for past years as per records of the I-T Department, then the refund is likely to be adjusted against these tax demands. In such cases, the Tax Department sends a communication stating its intention to adjust refund against the tax demands.

Large refunds

According to experts, claims of large refunds could be scrutinised by the department. Possibly, the department is considering initiating scrutiny assessment in your case, where the refund due may be kept on hold. If your return is selected for scrutiny or assessment, it can result in a delay in receiving refund. While this can be an arduous process, cooperating with the tax authorities and providing any requested information promptly can help expedite the resolution.

Technical glitches, errors

Though rare, technical glitches or system errors in processing systems can lead to delays in refund issuance. These issues may arise due to a variety of reasons such as system upgrades or maintenance. Taxpayers should provide valid bank account details for the credit of refund. "First step is ensuring that bank account details are accurate and consistent. There are many challenges we see at ground level, for example, there are cases where a bank account reflects a middle name while PAN records doesn't (or vice versa), leading to a mismatch that causes system to deny refund credit. One must ensure bank records align with PAN details and that the account is validated on I-T portal," says Makhijani.

IN CONVERSATION

NYRIKA HOLKAR
Executive director of Godrej Enterprises

'Furniture business to contribute half of group revenue by 2029'

INTERIO by Godrej, the second-largest business vertical of ₹16,000 crore Godrej Enterprises Group, is on expansion spree as it aims to contribute half of the group's targeted ₹20,000 crore topline by 2029. **Nyrika Holkar**, executive director of Godrej Enterprises, tells **Benn Kochuveedan** the rebranding of Interio is aimed at cementing its leadership position in the ₹90,000 crore furniture/home interiors market and transform itself into a one-stop destination for modern living across homes and workspaces. **Excerpts:**

What is the rationale behind rebranding of Interio?
Our aim is to make great design accessible to a large customer base. As industry leaders, we're placed to deliver on this promise with our end-to-end solutions from design and manufacturing to retail and service. New product innovations like configurable furniture platforms will allow customisation at scale, while a digital-first approach enables convenience and an immersive shopping experience for online customers.

We're expanding retail customer focused (B2C) store counts by 300, while business-to-business (B2B) stores will go up by 200, taking total to 1,500 from present 1,000 stores by 2029. We'll be investing ₹100 crore each to expand our retail and online sales verticals as well as into design and development of new products. With this, we start a new chapter as an aspirational lifestyle brand.

How was sales last fiscal and how have you been growing this fiscal so far? Is demand constraints in other segments affecting your business as well? How confident are you of achieving the ₹10,000 crore revenue target?
We closed last fiscal with about ₹3,400 crore, growing at 17%. With new products and faster expansion, we've a target of growing 25% annually through 2029, when we'd be a ₹10,000 crore brand. We are expecting to double our FY25 topline through this fiscal year and the next two, contributing half of the group revenue by then.

We are expanding retail customer focused B2C store counts by 300, while B2B stores will go up by 200, taking the total to 1,500 by 2029 from 1,000 stores at present

How do you look at start-up players in your sector, especially those offering furniture on rent? How much of the organised market, which is only 30% of the ₹90,000 crore market they control?
Start-ups come up with novel ideas but sustainability of those ideas from a business and a profit and loss perspective looks challenging. The rental furniture space looks a little baffling because it does appear like a trend but when you go and start offering, you see that there is no market worth targeting as the larger part of the market still wants to buy furniture.

In fact, we did experiment with renting but could not find a market that's scalable and have failed.

You've big plans for online sales. Currently how much sales come from online and where do you see this reaching as you have plans to invest ₹100 crore more into this vertical...
We get 15% from online where it is beginning online and is ending online. We're expecting this to grow rapidly. We cover about 90% of pin-codes now and we expect to net 20-22% by 2029.

What are your investment plans?
We've invested ₹350 crore for expansion, mainly product development and plants. We're investing ₹300 crore more over next three years, under which ₹100 crore each will go into three areas — to open 500 more physical retail stores, into the online vertical, and to design and development of new products. Put together, we are saying that in the course of next two-three years, this is the investment which is happening in the front-end as we have made adequate investments—to the tune of ₹350 crore in the back-end in setting up a new steel pant in Khalapur, buying machinery for our unit in Shirwal, among others.

What's the typical margin in this business and how much you earned last year?
Margin varies so a blended average is 10-11%, but we are seeing it expanding to 15-16%. Last fiscal, we'd earned ₹500 crore.

MONEY-WISE

CONSUMPTION FUND: REASONS TO INVEST

FINANCIAL ADVICE

ASHOK KUMAR
Head of LKW-India.
He can be reached at ceolotus@hotmail.com
(Views expressed here are personal)

OVER the years, one of the key parameters I've used to gauge the trajectory of the market has been consumption patterns. More often than not visible discretionary spending is a sign of an economy on the upswing and the stock market usually would have discerned and discounted it early. It is in this context that I find consumption mutual funds offered by asset management companies (AMCs) and their holdings interesting.

By definition, consumption-funds are thematic MFs that invest in companies directly connected to consumer spending. These funds focus on businesses that produce or sell goods and services used in daily life. This includes sectors like food and beverages, clothing, automobiles, consumer electronics, retail, hospitality, personal care and entertainment besides other segments.As consumption rises, the companies that provide these goods and services tend to grow more profitable.

One of the key reasons investors consider these funds is relatively stable and predictable nature of consumer demand. While other sectors like technology or infrastructure may undergo cyclical swings, consumption tends to grow, unless the economy itself is on the downswing. During periods of economic growth, these businesses often see faster revenue and profit growth. During challenging times, they tend to hold up better than other sectors.

Consumption funds invest in companies that have strong brand recognition, wide distribution networks, and loyal customer bases. These companies enjoy pricing power, suggesting they can raise prices without losing customers. This helps them protect profits even when input costs rise. Many of these businesses have been around for decades and have shown consistent growth over time. This gives investors confidence that they are putting money into firms with proven track records.

However, consumption funds come with their own set of risks. Since they focus on a single theme, these funds are not as diversified as regular equity mutual funds. If consumption drops, the fund's performance may suffer. Factors such as inflation, changes in government policy, weak rural income or an economic slowdown can negatively impact consumer demand. Consumption patterns evolve over time and if a fund manager is caught wrong-footed when there is a shift in consumption pattern, there could be a price to pay for investors.

Consumption MFs are more suitable for those with belief in the country's long-term growth story, of which consumption is a natural corollary. Consumption funds provide exposure to well-known brands and businesses and thus they can be a rewarding part of a long-term diversified investment strategy.

For younger investors as well as those with a reasonable risk appetite, consumption funds can be worth a look-in albeit with time-tested caveat that one with need to bide time to derive optimal returns from these funds as consumption stocks do not come cheap and are thus more suited to a growth rather than value investment strategy. Simply put, if you invest in these funds, then be patient and stay the course.

MONEY MATTERS

HOW TO MAKE SENSE OF THE INFY BUYBACK OFFER

FINANCIAL KNOWLEDGE

RAJAS KELKAR
(The author is editor-in-chief at www.moneyminute.in)

NOT long ago, Infosys was the darling of the stock market, a beacon of success in the late 90s and early 2000s technology boom. It was a pioneer in corporate governance, setting new standards by publishing quarterly results before it was a regulatory requirement. The company's management, with their unwavering dedication, created unprecedented shareholder value for early and new investors over the next two decades. The company's stock market performance, a testament to its success, saw an unprecedented momentum in the share price. However, this momentum has slowed in recent years, with the share price remaining unchanged over the past three years.

Over the past few days, the Infosys share price has inched up following the company's announcement of its largest buyback of shares. When a company offers to repurchase its own shares, it indicates that it has surplus cash on its balance sheet. The intention is to return the money to shareholders. It may sound like a noble idea, as selling your shares can yield a premium over the prevailing market price. If you hold them, you receive the benefit of higher earnings per share as the company extinguishes the shares bought back in the offer. Either way, it is a positive move for the share price in the short-term. Despite that, there is barely any jump or enthusiasm among investors.

As a shareholder of Infosys, you may wonder about what lies ahead. That is primarily because today's prices are a function of tomorrow's profits. Infosys is not making losses. However, the expected growth in revenue and profit is no longer as spectacular as it was in the past. Indian technology companies, such as Tata Consultancy Services and Infosys, generate a substantial amount of free cash flow. They invest the money they make in people. They hire smart engineering graduates or train science graduates to become coders, analysts, and consultants. As their business is to service other businesses in the US and other global markets, these companies spend resources in expanding their reach across large Fortune 500 companies.

A section of analysts cites examples of other global rivals, such as Oracle, and criticises Infosys for focusing on shareholder value and not allocating sufficient funds to innovation and research. The return of cash to shareholders is not viewed positively. Such criticism is unfounded and unnecessary. Companies like Infosys have a DNA that enables them to service large corporate customers overseas. Suppose you listen to the conference calls of most companies. In that case, they do not expect a major surge in the demand for technology services from companies as they grapple with the impact of artificial intelligence and machine learning. Furthermore, business sentiment is hindered by the tariff wars and geopolitical risks worldwide.

EXPRESSS ILLUSTRATION

The solution suggested by some for Indian companies is to suddenly turn to tech products and compete with Microsoft, Nvidia, and others. That is unlikely to happen. You cannot change the DNA of a business like that suddenly. It is not the fault of the software services companies. India is not an innovation-led economy like the United States. The economic infrastructure in India remains hostile to entrepreneurship, despite the government's claims of reforms. The software services sector has not evolved to address India's structural and economic problems. It evolved because it addressed problems of large clients outside India.

From an investor's standpoint, you may want to assume that it is part of a business cycle. Expecting innovation-led approach from Indian technology companies is like getting them to move away from their natural game. You may want to discuss investing based on valuation and future market expectations. While the growth rates of early 2000s are missing, technology companies continue to generate free cash flows. As an investor, your ability to moderate your expectations will be tested.

Post-sale discount not taxable under GST, clarifies CBIC

DIPAK MONDAL @ New Delhi

THE government has clarified that routine post-sale discounts will remain outside the ambit of GST unless such discounts are tied to certain specified 'taxable' activities.

The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) has issued guidelines on goods and services tax (GST) treatment of post-sale discounts, aiming to bring clarity and reduce litigation in an area that has long been contentious for businesses. In a circular dated September 12, 2025, the CBIC has clarified discounts can't be reclassified as payments for promotional services unless dealers are contractually required to perform specified activities—like advertising, co-branding or sales

drives— in this case, GST will apply on such services.

It says post-sale discounts provided by manufacturers to dealers not to be treated as "consideration" for supplies made by dealers to end customers, as these transactions operate on a principal-to-principal basis. Such discounts are seen as competitive price reductions, not payments for independent services. The circular says where a manufacturer has a prior agreement with an end customer for reduced prices, and issues credit notes to dealers to facilitate discount, such amounts will be considered part of consideration and attract GST.

Recipients of goods will not be required to reverse input tax credit when they receive post-sale discounts through financial or commercial credit notes. Rajat Mohan, Senior Partner, AMRG & Associates, says, "Clarification draws line of distinction— trade discounts remain outside GST as price reductions, while subsidies tied to end-customer pricing will be treated as additional consideration."

Govt reopens PLI window for white goods

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

THE government has reopened the application window for the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for white goods, covering air conditioners and LED lights, to attract additional investments into the sector.

The 30-day window will remain open from September 15 to October 14, the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) said in a statement on Thursday. "The application window for the PLI scheme for white goods is being reopened based on the appetite of the industry to invest more under the scheme, which is an outcome of the growing market and confidence generated due to manufacturing of key components," DPIIT said.

13 public issues hitting street this week, eye ₹8,700 crore fundraise

BENN KOCHUVEEDAN @ MUMBAI

AS many as 13 companies are gearing up to launch primary issues this week, seeking to garner close to about ₹8,700 crore.

Issuers are rushing to the street as Sebi approvals will lapse by September 30. If lapsed then they will have to wait a minimum of three months.

Those tapping the primary market this week are Park Medi World (₹1,260 cr), Jain Resource Recycling (₹1,250 cr), Saatvik Green Energy (₹1,100 cr), Anand Rathi Share & Stock Brokers (₹745 cr), Seshaasai Technologies (₹700 cr), iValue Infosolutions (₹600 cr), Euro Pratik Sales (₹450 cr), Atlanta Electricals (₹600 cr), Solar World Energy Solutions (₹600 cr), Ciel HR Services (₹400 cr), GK Energy (₹500 cr), Ganesh

Consumer Products (₹350 cr), and Jinkushal Industries (₹125 cr), merchant bankers told TNIE. All these companies are likely to announce their price bands in the week beginning September 15 and plan to launch their IPOs before September 30, they added.

So far in September, six mainboard issues collectively raised ₹3,464 crore, led by Urban Company's ₹1,900 crore, which became the most successful issue in terms of oversubscription (103x), Vikran Engineering (₹772 cr), Amanta Healthcare (₹126 cr), Anlon Healthcare (₹121 cr), Sringar House of Mangalsutra (₹401 cr) and Dev Accelerator's ₹143.4 crore issue.

However, October is going to be issuers hitting jackpots as there are over a dozen issuers led by Tata Capital, which has got a special RBI dispensation to do so by the second week of October, to launch its mega issue, which will be close to a ₹18,000 crore issue at a valuation of about ₹1.75 lakh crore , set to hit the market before Diwali, which is falling on October 20.

The pipeline adds to an already strong year for IPOs. So far, 55 mainboard issues have hit the markets.

Sloppy India handed 8-wkt thrashing by Australia

Butter-fingered India dropped four catches as fine half-centuries from Phoebe Litchfield, Beth Mooney and Annabel Sutherland powered Australia women to a crushing eight-wicket victory in the first ODI in Mullanpur on Sunday. Batting first, India women posted 281/7, and Australia completed the chase in 44.1 overs. **Brief scores:** India 281/7 in 50 ovs (Rawal 64, Mandhana 58, Deol 54; Schutt 2/45) **lost to** Aus 282/2 in 44.1 ovs (Litchfield 88, Mooney 77 n.o, Sutherland 54 n.o).

World Championships: Jaismine, Meenakshi India's golden gloves

ANMOL GURUNG @ Chennai

It was euphoria for two boxers — Jaismine Lamboria and Meenakshi Hooda — and their families on Sunday.

A dream that had encountered multiple challenges over the years had finally come to fruition. The Haryana boxers won the biggest bouts of their careers and are set to return to the country as world champions. The two shone brightest in the just-concluded World Boxing Championships in Liverpool, helping India capture two gold medals. Nupur Sheoran and Pooja Rani clinched silver and bronze, respectively.

In the wee hours on Sunday, Jaismine displayed her ability to course-correct on the fly and come out on the winning side at the M&S Bank Arena, where pro heavyweight champion Oleksandr Usyk was also among attendees. The Bhiwani girl, who's related to former great Captain Hawa Singh, outsmarted Julia Szeremeta of Poland in the women's 57kg final. When the referee raised her hand, signalling her historic feat, the 24-year-old was visibly emotional. "It was a different form of happiness. I won't be able to express it properly, but it was certainly a joyous moment. Then I ran towards the coaches and told them, 'yes, I have managed to return with a gold for India'," Jaismine later reflected.

Jaismine has been a different athlete following her Paris Games heartbreak. She was the showstopper during the national championships in Greater Noida earlier this year and had also shown her high aptitude during the World Cup in Astana. Jaismine said her decision to train at the Army Sports Institute (ASI) has renewed her energy.

"Soon after the Olympics, I went to the ASI to train under coaches like Chhote Lal (former coach of MC Mary Kom). The coaches devised a plan for me on how to improve my game, what are the things that I need to change, strength-wise, things related to my physical ability. I was working on those for seven-eight months and it was quite productive."

Glimpses of her talent was visible for everyone to gauge in the past but Jaismine had struggled to cope with the rigours of the sport at the highest level prior to the 2024 Paris Games. That's when she she hit the refresh button and looked ahead with healthy dose of determination.

Throughout the Liverpool campaign, Jaismine had operated like a seasoned star, getting the better of rivals with different styles. She has now taken some mental notes on things that could make her a bigger force.

Jaismine's story would be a distant dream if not for her uncles, who initiated her to the sport. Jaismine's late grandfather, a former wrestler, was against the idea of women getting into sports like wrestling and boxing but her uncles — Sandeep and Parvinder — had convinced him to allow her to wear the gloves. She's just grateful to her family for giving her the push.

While Jaismine's uncles were supportive, it was just the opposite for Meenakshi, whose uncle initially didn't approve of her boxing.

Daughter of an auto driver from Rurki, Rohtak, Meenakshi has authored a fairytale for herself. In the gold-medal match, Meenakshi got the better of Nazym Kyzaibay, who's a bronze medallist for Paris Games. The victory is not just Meenakshi's, but also her parents' and her coaches who had given her wings to fly.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

COMING TO THE FOUR

List of medallists from India in the just-concluded World Boxing Championships in Liverpool

Jaismine Lamboria	W57kg	Gold
Meenakshi Hooda	W48kg	Gold
Nupur Sheoran	W+81kg	Silver
Pooja Rani	W80kg	Bronze

Jaismine Lamboria (L) and Meenakshi Hooda (R) in action during the World Championships in Liverpool | WORLD BOXING

Spinners Axar and Kuldeep rise to the occasion in Dubai as Suryakumar & Co defeat Pak by seven wickets, dedicate win to Pahalgam victims

India turn left for right route

GOMESH S @ Chennai

IN the hours leading up the India versus Pakistan clash at the Dubai International Stadium, two contrasting feelings had filled up the air. Underlying tension towards what could happen amidst call for boycott on one side, and lack of buzz in and around the stadium with the temperature rising up to 50 deg Celsius. For all the hype around every India-Pakistan match, this one clearly had more riding on it and not because of cricketing reasons. So much so that assistant coach Ryan ten Doeschate said that they had a meeting about the concerns, if any, players had.

It was the first time India and Pakistan were playing each other in a sporting event since the cross-border tensions post the Pahalgam terror attack in April-May. Since then, 2024 Olympic gold medallist javelin thrower Arshad Nadeem had pulled out of Neeraj Chopra Classic event in Bengaluru. Pakistan had pulled out of the recently concluded Hockey Asia Cup and there is still no certainty on them taking part in the Junior Hockey World Cup later this year.

Axar Patel (R) celebrates a wicket with captain Suryakumar Yadav on Sunday | AFP

However, after doubts over whether the tournament will even happen, it seemed like the wait will finally end in the Asia Cup, played at a neutral venue. Even then, the mood in the lead up only showed why the most-watched, highly-anticipated contest, is more than just a sporting event. Though there were doubts over whether fans would fill up the stands, they eventually filled most of it at least, coming in late due to the searing heat in Dubai. Then, skipper Suryakumar Yadav refused to shake hands with Salman Agha after the toss, adding to the tension in the air.

All the build-up and hype about what could happen, fell flat on the very first delivery. Saim Ayub hit Hardik Pandya straight to Jasprit Bumrah at point to get out on a duck and that was just the beginning. As it has been the case in recent years, what is billed as the biggest match of the sport did not live up to the expectation. Once Ayub fell, Bumrah removed Mohammad Haris. He went on to bowl three overs in the powerplay, putting the neighbours on the backfoot. From thereon, the two left-arm spinners, Axar Patel and Kuldeep Yadav, ensured Pakistan never really recovered. Both Axar and Kuldeep slowed down their pace and well as the proceedings, bringing the Salman Agha-led side to a standstill. Axar removed Fakhar Zaman and followed it up with the wicket of Agha before Kuldeep ran through the middle-order. They scrapped their way to 127/9, thanks to Shaheen Shah Afridi's heroics in the death. The chase was just a formality as Yadav took India home with seven wickets in hand and walked off the field without shaking hands with Pakistan players who then waited in front of India dressing room. However, Indian players did not turn up. Later, Yadav dedicated the win to the Pahalgam victims and Indian armed forces. **Brief scores:** Pak 127/9 in 20 ovs (Farhan 40, Afridi 33 n.o; Kuldeep 3/18, Axar 2/18) **lost to** India 131/3 in 15.5 ovs (Yadav 47 n.o, Sharma 31, Varma 31; Ayub 3/35).

ASIA CUP

Men in Blue refuse to shake hands with Pak

SOON as he hit the winning runs, India captain Suryakumar Yadav and Shivam Dube walked off the field, refraining from the customary handshakes with the Pakistan team during the Asia Cup encounter in Dubai on Sunday. Minutes later, India captain Yadav dedicated the seven-wicket win to the victims of the Pahalgam terror attack and Indian armed forces.

Suryakumar Yadav (R) and Shivam Dube walk off the field without shaking hands after the match on Sunday | AP

"We stand by the victims of the families of the Pahalgam terror attack. We express our solidarity. Want to dedicate the win to all our armed forces who showed a lot of bravery," Yadav said during the post-match presentation.

Even as the Indian batting duo had walked off the field after getting past the 128-run target, Pakistan players and support staff waited in front of the opposition dressing room for the customary post-match handshake. However, Indian players and coaching staff did not come out of the dressing room, which left Pakistan players and head coach Mike Hesson miffed. Skipper Salman Agha then went on to skip the post-match presentation.

"We were ready to shake hands at the end of the game but disappointed that the opposition didn't do that. We went over there to shake hands but they had already gone into the changing room. That was a disappointing way for the match to finish. Disappointed with the way we played but we were willing to shake hands," Hesson said during the post-match press conference before confirming that Agha didn't attend the presentation as a result of it. Earlier during the toss, Yadav did not shake hands with Pakistan skipper as it is customarily done.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

C Andre Siddarth (R) and Ankit Sharma added 192 runs for 7th wicket | PTI

Ankit, Siddarth delay Central's victory in final

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

WHEN the duo of Ankit Sharma and C Andre Siddarth walked back to the South Zone dressing room at tea, the team rose in unison. There were a lot of claps as well across the empty facility inside the BCCI's Centre of Excellence in Bengaluru. One could understand the excitement of the South team, to be fair. For the vast majority of the first three days, they were behind the eight ball after being invited to bat first. Since then, Central Zone had done a lot of the running as they piled on the runs, before finishing with 511 for a lead of 362 runs.

BRIEF SCORES

South Zone 149 and 426 in 121 ovs (Smaran 67, Bhui 45, Siddarth 84 n.o, Ankit 99; Kartikeya 4/110, Saransh 3/130) vs Central Zone 511 in 145.1 ovs.

When the players trudged off for lunch on Day Four, the match was seemingly headed in only one direction. After losing wickets at regular intervals, they were precariously placed at 249/6. Sharma and Siddarth had joined hands at 222 but the inning's dying embers appeared to be round the corner. However, that wasn't to be the case as the duo stitched together a mini-epic on an increasingly hot day on the outskirts of the city. The temperature wasn't the only thing that rose in the afternoon. Gradually, South's hopes rose. For over 52 overs, they combined to frustrate the Central Zone spinners and added 192 runs. But ultimately though, what will rankle is the way Sharma got out. The southpaw got a bit edgy on 99 and it all went a bit pear-shaped after that as they lost the last four wickets for 11 runs. On Monday, Central Zone will aim to clinch a title they had last won 11 years ago.

Man City rout United, Liverpool back on top

AGENCIES @ Manchester

MANCHESTER City are back to winning ways. Manchester United are back to square one. City utterly dominated the 197th Manchester derby on Sunday, winning 3-0 on another humbling day for United coach Ruben Amorim.

It could have been so much worse for the red half of Manchester, with Erling Haaland hitting the post and Tijjani Reijnders missing the target from close range as City threatened to turn it into a rout at the Etihad Stadium. Haaland scored twice in the second half, making it seven goals in a week following the five he hit for Norway against Moldova. Phil Foden opened the scoring for City in the 18th minute.

Earlier, Liverpool left it late again and moved back to the top of the Premier League. The defending champion secured a 1-0 win against Burnley and preserved its 100% start to the season thanks to a stoppage-time penalty from their Egyptian forward Mohamed Salah.

Mohamed Salah celebrates his goal against Burnley on Sunday | AP

Results: Burnley **0-1** Liverpool; Man City **3-0** Man Utd; Brentford **2-2** Chelsea.

Seville, Jefferson-Wooden bag maiden world titles

AGENCIES @ Tokyo

OBLIQUE Seville and Melissa Jefferson-Wooden recorded their first major victories in winning the men's and women's 100 metres world titles on Sunday, making it honours even between sprint powerhouses Jamaica and the United States. It was a good night in Tokyo for the Americans as two of their outstanding field athletes, Olympic champions Tara Davis-Woodhall and Valarie Allman, won the women's long jump and discus respectively. Seville became first Jamaican in 10 years to win 100m title.

For Allman it filled a yawning space in her burgeoning medals cabinet -- a world title. There was a once-in-a-blue-moon ending in the men's 10,000m as Europe got the better of the cream of African distance running -- France's Jimmy Gressier took the honours. It was a first victory over the distance for a European since Somalia-born Briton Mo Farah in 2017. He also won in 2013 & 2015. Italian Alberto Cova won the event at the inaugural edition in 1983. Ethiopians Yomif Kejelcha and 2024 Games silver medallist Selemon Barega were second and third.

Oblique Seville (L) won the men's 100m sprint on Sunday. It was Jamaica's first since Usain Bolt's Worlds titles in 2015 | AFP

Kushare in final

Sarvesh Kushare qualified for the finals of the men's high jump of the World Athletics Championships on Sunday. He is the first Indian to qualify in this discipline at the world level. His 2.25m jump in the qualification round placed him seventh in his qualification group 'B' and ninth in overall qualifying. Gulveer Singh finished a modest 16th in 10,000m with a timing of 29:13.33sec. Frenchman Jimmy Grenier took gold in a photo finish.

SatChi, Lakshya lose in finals

AGENCIES @ Hong Kong

LAKSHYA Sen and the men's doubles pair of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty signed off with runners-up finishes at the Hong Kong Open Super 500 here on Sunday. Lakshya could not blunt the attack of world No. 4 Li Shi Feng and went down 15-21 12-21 in a rather sedate men's singles final.

Satwik and Chirag, who bagged a second successive World Championships bronze last month, let go of a one-game advantage before losing 21-19 14-21 17-21 to China's Olympic silver medallists Liang Wei Keng and Wang Chang.

BIG SETBACK

Wrestler Aman found overweight at Worlds

FIROZ MIRZA @ Chennai

LESS than a month ago, Wrestling Federation of India suspended and dropped woman wrestler Neha Sangwan from the Senior World Championships squad for being overweight. She was found overweight by 700 grams ahead of her bout against Ella Marie Finding of Canada at the U20 World Championships in August. India went unrepresented in the 59kg at the event even as the WFI replaced Neha with Sarika Malik for the ongoing senior World Championships.

The sanction and punishment, however, could not prevent yet another setback for India at the ongoing Worlds as this time their biggest medal hope, Aman Sehrawat, the 2024 Pairs Olympics bronze medallist, was found overweight by 1700 grams ahead of his 57kg opening bout at the ongoing Worlds in Zagreb, Croatia on Sunday.

Notably, India lost out on an Olympic medal when Vinesh Phogat was found overweight ahead of her final in the 50kg in Paris last year. Aman's disqualification also served a big jolt to India's campaign even if it was not of the same magnitude as of Vinesh's ouster.

"It's too early to say anything but the future course of action as far as Aman's disqualification is concerned will be decided in a day or two," a WFI source told this daily. Neha was suspended for two years because of her consistent weight mismanagement but what sanction Aman will attract would depend on his explanation to the federation.

Meanwhile, the freestyle wrestlers failed to impress as none other than Mukul Dahiya (86kg) could make it to the medal round. Dahiya also lost the medal bout to Iranian wrestler Kamran G Ghasempour.

Besides, former Worlds silver medallist Deepak Punia, who is competing in 92kg, won his qualification bout but lost the next round against Osman Nurmagomedov of Azerbaijan. Nurmagomedov then lost the semifinal, ending the India grappler's campaign.

EXPRESS READ

Women fail to qualify directly for hockey WC

HANGZHOU (CHINA): The Indian women's hockey team faltered when it mattered the most, losing 1-4 to China in the final of Asia Cup to miss out on direct qualification for next year's World Cup, here on Sunday. India drew the first blood through a penalty corner conversion by Navneet Kaur in the very first minute itself before China came into their own, scoring four goals to win their third title in tournament and secure their passage to the 2026 World Cup.

Asian Cup qualifiers: Chhetri in probables

NEW DELHI: Fresh from India's third-place finish in the CAFA Nations Cup, the men's football team coach Khalid Jamil announced a 30-member probables squad, including talisman Sunil Chhetri, for the upcoming AFC Asian Cup qualifier against Singapore.

10-year-old Indian Atiqa wins UAE race

DUBAI: Indian racing's 10-year-old prodigy Atiqa Mir on Sunday created history by becoming the first woman in UAE karting to win a race in the Minimax category. It was a competitive field of 14 drivers including seasoned European race winners.

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

14 BENGALURU
MONDAY | 15.09.2025

India celebrates
ENGINEERS' DAY

A SPACE MARKETING INITIATIVE

SIR VISVESVARAYA & ENGINEERING LEGACY FOR SUSTAINABILITY

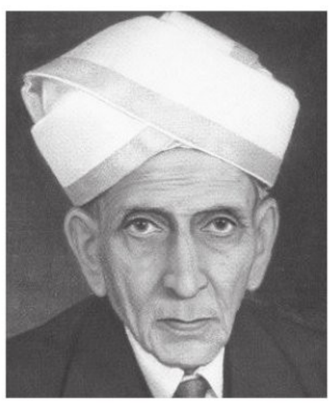
EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ New Delhi

EVERY year on September 15, India observes National Engineers' Day, a tribute to the country's engineers and their contributions to national development. The date marks the birth anniversary of Sir Mokshagundam Visvesvaraya, one of India's most celebrated engineers and a visionary whose work laid the foundation for modern engineering practices in the country. As India grapples with 21st-century challenges such as climate change, rapid urbanisation, and digital transformation, Engineers' Day serves as both a moment of reflection and a call to action.

Born in 1861 in the village of Muddenahalli, Karnataka, Sir M. Visvesvaraya rose from modest beginnings to become a symbol of technical brilliance and national service. Despite losing his father at a young age and facing financial hardships, he excelled academically. After completing his early education in Chikkaballapur and Bengaluru, he earned a Bachelor of Arts from Central College, Bengaluru, and later pursued civil engineering at the College of Engineering, Pune.

His early career in the Public Works Department of the Bombay Presidency quickly highlighted his engineering prowess. However, it was his groundbreaking innovations in irrigation and flood management that cemented his reputation as a pioneer. One of his most notable achievements was the design and implementation of automatic sluice gates at the Khadakwasla reservoir near Pune—an innovation that would go on to be replicated at multiple dams across India.

But perhaps his most enduring legacy is the Krishna Raja Sagar (KRS) Dam in Mysuru, a project that transformed the agricultural landscape of Karnataka and still plays a critical role in irrigation and power



generation today. Visvesvaraya's emphasis on precision, sustainability, and foresight is evident in how many of his projects remain functional and relevant even a century later.

Sir Visvesvaraya's contributions extended far beyond water engineering. As the Diwan of Mysore from 1912 to 1918, he spearheaded an ambitious agenda of industrialisation and infrastructure development. Under his leadership, Mysore saw the establishment of the Mysore Soap Factory, Sandalwood Oil Factory, State Bank of Mysore, and several technical and educational institutions. He also played a key role in developing Hyderabad's flood protection and drainage systems.

His life's work embodied a vision of engineering as a tool for nation-building—an ethos that continues to inspire generations of Indian engineers. For his contributions, he was knighted by the British Empire in 1915 and later awarded India's highest civilian honour, the Bharat Ratna, in 1955.

While India celebrates Engineers' Day on September 15, the global engineering community observes World Engineering Day for Sustainable

Development on March 4, as designated by UNESCO. This day focuses on the critical role engineers play in achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly in areas like clean water, renewable energy, resilient infrastructure, and climate action.

In 2025, the theme of World Engineering Day—"Engineering Solutions for a Sustainable World"—resonates deeply with the principles that guided Visvesvaraya's work. The theme calls attention to how engineering must evolve to address not only technological demands but also environmental and social sustainability. From green architecture and smart cities to clean energy and circular economies, engineers are increasingly at the forefront of solving complex global problems.

As India continues its push toward becoming a $5 trillion economy, the role of engineers is more important than ever. Sectors like infrastructure, clean energy, artificial intelligence, and climate resilience require not just technical skills but also a vision grounded in ethics, sustainability, and inclusivity.

Yet, challenges remain. India faces a growing skills gap in emerging technologies, underinvestment in R&D, and an urgent need to align

engineering education with future-oriented goals. Sir Visvesvaraya once said, "Remember, your work may be only to sweep a railway crossing, but it is your duty to keep it so clean that no other crossing in the world is as clean as yours." This spirit of dedication, regardless of one's role, is what must guide the new generation of engineers.

Engineers' Day is more than a celebration. it's a reminder of the responsibility engineers carry in shaping the present and future of the nation. In remembering Sir M. Visvesvaraya, India honours not just a great mind, but a philosophy that engineering, when practiced with purpose and vision, can transform lives and nations. As we move further into the 21st century, this legacy is not just to be celebrated, but to be carried forward.

India's modern engineering marvels

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ New Delhi

FROM the snow-covered peaks of the Himalayas to the busy streets of Mumbai, India has seen the rise of several modern engineering marvels over the years. These projects, built in some of the most challenging terrains and conditions, stand as shining examples of human ingenuity and technological progress.

One such achievement is the Atal Tunnel in Himachal Pradesh. At 9.02 km long and located beneath the Rohtang Pass, it holds the title of the

World's longest Highway Tunnel above 10,000 feet. Designed to withstand freezing temperatures and extreme conditions, the tunnel has cut travel time between Manali and Sarchu by nearly five hours and ensures year-round connectivity for the Lahaul-Spiti region.

In Mumbai, the Bandra-Worli Sea Link is a symbol of urban progress. This 5.6 km cable-stayed bridge connects the suburbs of Bandra and Worli, easing traffic congestion and reducing travel time significantly. Built to withstand earthquakes up to magnitude 7.0, it also showcases world-class architectural design.

Another remarkable project is the Chenab Bridge

in Jammu and Kashmir. Currently the world's highest railway bridge, it is part of the Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Railway Link. Built to endure harsh weather, high winds, and seismic activity, it is expected to enhance connectivity to the region once fully operational.

In Hyderabad, the Durgam Cheruvu Cable Bridge, inaugurated in 2019, spans across Durgam Cheruvu Lake. It features a single pylon and a 233.8-metre span, making it one of the longest cable-stayed bridges of its kind. Though a popular tourist spot, heavy footfall has prompted local police to impose a ₹2,000 fine for stopping vehicles to take pictures.

The Statue of Unity, built near the Narmada River in Gujarat, is another engineering feat. Standing at 182 metres, it is the tallest statue in the world and was completed by Larsen & Toubro in 2018 to honour Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.

The newly inaugurated Pamban Bridge in Tamil Nadu is India's first vertical-lift railway sea bridge, replacing the century-old structure. At 2.07 km long, it improves connectivity to Rameswaram Island.

The Dhola-Sadiya Bridge in Assam, officially named Bhupen Hazarika Setu, is India's longest water bridge at 9.15 km. It boosts regional connectivity and strengthens defence logistics near the Arunachal Pradesh border.

ENGINEERING TRUST
ONE PROJECT AT A TIME

Efficient managers, well-equipped industries, trained technologists and skilled workmen constitute the true wealth of a nation.

In a country where nearly 1.5 million engineers graduate every year, it is fitting that National Engineers' Day is observed with pride and reverence. Since 1968, the birth anniversary of Mokshagundam Visvesvaraya (1861–1962)—a legendary civil engineer and statesman—has become the day to recognize the contributions and milestones made in engineering.

India has always had a strong engineering legacy. From the water management systems of the Indus Valley to the urban planning documented in ancient texts, engineering has shaped our civilization. The British era brought modernisation through public works departments and engineering colleges. Post-Independence, engineering became the backbone of nation-building—fuelled by institutions that expanded technical education and by the rise of an indigenous engineering workforce.

"Back in the day, our dreams were anchored in core branches like civil, mechanical, electrical and electronics," recalls a retired engineer who spent decades constructing bridges across India. "The structures we built still stand strong, but what made it possible was the trust between government and partners capable of executing projects at scale."

The pride in such achievements continues to inspire new generations. Today, the profession has broadened to include emerging

fields like computer science, cybersecurity, artificial intelligence (AI), and robotics. A young data analyst reflects: "Blending engineering degrees with technology certifications is the norm. When technology supports core engineering—whether in building a metro line, a sea bridge, or a housing complex—it ensures quality and timely delivery, which is the true measure of success."

Modern-day engineers are also far more conscious of sustainability, safety, and resilience. Climate change and sustainable development are no longer optional—they are imperatives. Projects now integrate renewable energy, digital technologies, and efficient designs to minimize carbon emissions and conserve resources.

A project manager from a technology-led EPC company noted: "Landmark projects like the new Parliament House, the Mumbai Trans Harbour Link, and the Chennai Metro rail are reminders that engineering excellence, when combined with digital tools and sustainable practices, can redefine how nations progress."

This shift reflects a larger truth: engineering is not just about structures—it is about trust. From planning to execution, every project requires transparency, collaboration, and the ability to anticipate future challenges. India's engineers have consistently proven that when trust and technology come together, the outcome is infrastructure that lasts generations.

As we celebrate Engineers' Day, it is this spirit of trust, innovation, and responsibility that must guide the profession. Because every bridge, every metro, every tunnel, and every factory is more than steel and concrete—it is a testament to engineering trust, one project at a time.

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS City

Bengaluru Express

READSHAREFOLLOW
newindianexpress.com
Mail us: bengalurucityexpress@gmail.com
15.09.2025
MONDAY

DAY'S DIARY

Iconic Moment

In 1954, the famous picture of Marilyn Monroe, laughing as her skirt blows, was shot during the filming of *The Seven Year Itch*.

ORIGINS

Marilyn was born Norma Jeane Mortenson on June 1, 1926. Also known as Norma Jean Baker, she had a difficult childhood with her mother institutionalised. She rose to fame as an actor after being a pin-up girl and model.

BEHIND THE SCENES

The scene took 14 shots at 1am in the morning, while 100 photographers and around 5,000 spectators looked on. But the never-ending noise created by the fans led to a re-shoot on a set.

AFTERMATH

The scene is iconic in film history but infuriated Monroe's husband, Joe DiMaggio. The couple divorced soon after.

Check out these filmy chocolate recipes

PG 3

D-coding the D-code

Mount Carmel College recently came under fire for its dress code banning student fashion staples like V-neck shirts, cargo pants, graphic tees and more

SRUTHI HEMACHANDRAN

A historic 77-year-old educational institution, Mount Carmel College (MCC) was one of the city's most iconic women's colleges until last year, when it became co-ed. A year in, the college has made sweeping changes to its dress code, along with other rule modifications, which have not gone down well with students.

Once known for its liberal atmosphere and for producing students with a sense of fashion, the college has banned wardrobe essentials, cargo pants to graphic t-shirts, round and V-neck shirts, prints or captions on tees and slippers, among others. "The girls are definitely unhappy. We understand they want professionalism, but certain things are unreasonable. For a while, security guards weren't allowing us to enter the campus if our jeans had pockets similar to cargo pants, and even with loose tops and kurtis that don't show skin, they would ask girls to raise their arms to check if the length was above the waist. Students returning after sports practice from the nearby college grounds were not allowed to enter campus just because they were wearing shorts. Eventually, they had to change outside," says Ananya*, a student.

Collective Bangalore, a student organisation, recently released a statement condemning the institution and calling out this 'arbitrary enforcement', an alleged rule that prevents students from leaving the premises until classes for the day are done, and the absence of student representatives and social workers in the Internal Complaints Committee. Students also alleged that male students get more leeway and female students are put in an uncomfortable situation during check. Have things changed since the media attention? Students say it's difficult to tell. "The checking isn't happening like it used to anymore because most students are now wearing traditional clothes or carrying backup clothes in their bags to avoid the uncertainty around what will get dress coded. We can't afford to miss classes," adds Ananya.

The changes may seem comparatively drastic on paper but the signs have been there for a while, according to Bhavya*, who graduated in 2025. "I remember starting college with a relaxed dress code (avoid showing knees and spaghetti straps). I've worn my share of decent sleeveless clothes and midi dresses, but by the time we left, though the new dress code hadn't been enforced, we started getting picked on for small things. A friend was asked not to sit on the floor since it shows a sliver of her back. We slowly but surely saw it coming."

An alumna who graduated in 2011, Tanu Kulkarni strongly opposes the move, calling it 'absurd'. "Back then, there was no enforcement of the dress code; we used that to carve our own identities as individuals and used dressing as a form of expression. This [freedom] was what MCC was known for. Students are aware that they are dressing up for college and not for a party. It's strange that they're doing this now. It's like saying that women should not dress up because there are boys around. Is that the message they want to send?"

Another alumna who graduated in the '80s takes a neutral position, saying, "I feel that the more restrictions, the harder students rebel. At the same time, I don't think there's anything wrong with having a dress code. You can be stylish with any dress code. Why make such a hue and cry?"

Principal George Lekha said the administration is looking into the issue, but they have 'no plans to abolish the new dress code'. She said, "A dress code is essential for any institution and the one we have implemented is not very strict, we are not asking them to wear uniforms." She did not respond to further questions.

Names changed for anonymity

Back then, there was no enforcement of the dress code; we used that to carve our own identities as individuals and used dressing as a form of expression. This [freedom] was what MCC was known for. It's strange that they're doing this now. Tanu Kulkarni, alumna

'Next film on two women's liberty in British Bengal'

Anuparna Roy has won a major award as director at the Venice Film Festival. She says it's wrong to describe *Songs of Forgotten Trees* as a story of sisterhood when it's about a romantic relationship between two women who share a flat in Mumbai

SHARMISTHA GHOSAL

Anuparna Roy

IN a world where everyone is moving at a breakneck speed, filmmaker Anuparna Roy lives up to the proverb – slow and steady wins the race. When films are being made within an average span ranging between 15 days and a couple of months, the winner of the Orizzonti Award for best director at Venice Film Festival took more than two years to make her 77-minute-long award-winning film, *Songs of Forgotten Trees*.

Slowly coming to terms with her post-win, Roy is already endeavouring to make her third film, set against the backdrop of early 20th-century British Bengal, where two women fight for existence and true liberation. Excerpts of a conversation with Roy on her next film, why she sticks by her speech at the recently-concluded Venice Film Festival, and why it miffs her when her award-winning film is being labelled as a tale of sisterhood, when it is not.

A still from *Songs of Forgotten Trees*

● How much has life changed after winning an award at the world's oldest film festival?

This is a life-changing event for me. I'm now so optimistic that I will get producers, and I will get to make yet another film. However, the unnecessary controversy over my speech that is trying to overshadow the win is something that is hurting me a little. I couldn't process it initially when my name was announced. I felt, did cinema really win? Did my relentless efforts and labour finally get the recognition it deserved?

● You are the fifth Indian and second woman from the country (after Mira Nair) to win at the Venice Film Festival. How does it feel?

It has made me a lot more responsible as a filmmaker now. No matter how uncomfortable any situation gets, whether politically or personally, I have to forget that and keep making good cinema. That's the bigger fight, going forward.

● What was the inspiration behind the film's narrative?

First, I want to clarify that it's annoying to see media reports stating that this is a film about sisterhood. It isn't. It's a romantic relationship story of two women who share a flat. Describing it as a story of sisterhood is a wrong portrayal. It's a tale that depicts the struggle to express the feelings they feel for each other, in which Mumbai is a secondary context. When I was a child, I saw how my maternal grandma formed a great bond with her stepdaughter after my grandpa's demise. They used to run the household smoothly without any help from men. If one cooked, the other fed children; while one did chores, the other earned. I took a leaf from that and further developed a story around how it would be if two such women were romantically drawn to each other.

(L-R) Naaz Shaikh and Sumi Baghel in *Songs of Forgotten Trees*

● You took over two years to finally make the film...

I came to Mumbai in August 2022, with a job in hand, and I was scared when I decided to leave the job and pursue my passion. My parents were skeptical but I ended up taking the risk. In December 2022, I started shooting the film, which was completed in December 2023. The entire 2024 and nearly a quarter of 2025 were spent in post-production work. When it got selected for the Venice Film Festival, it was admitted as a work-in-progress film. I took so long because I wanted it to be perfect.

● When did the bug of cinema bite you?

As a child, when I used to watch Bengali commercial cinema starring Tapas Paul and Prosenjit Chatterjee, I wanted to be a part of that world. When I started studying English literature in college, I realised I could be a writer, and then my first short film, *Run to the River*, happened. Editor Anirban Maity has been a huge support and mentor in my life. He edited the short without any remuneration, guided me and even funded the festival rounds for the film. I'm also grateful to Paresh Kamdar, who was the post-production mentor for the film. Producers like Ranjan Singh, Romil Jain, Bibhanshu Rai and Anurag Kashyap came into the scene, and we pulled it off together.

● How did Anurag Kashyap get involved in the film?

Anurag Kashyap was a good friend of Ranjan Singh, and I wanted him to watch my film, and guide me. He liked it so much that he ended up joining us as a presenter in August, 2025. When I expressed my desire to speak about Palestine, if I win at the festival, he advised me against it, since it might lead to unnecessary controversy. But when I got the award, I thought I must use the platform to say what's right. It's annoying how it is being wrongly interpreted and how I am being called out. I can't help it.

● In hindsight, do you regret saying it?

Not at all. I would have said what I said. And I haven't spoken for Palestine just now. In Russia, too, where my first film was screened, I talked about Palestine, but back then, no one knew me or my cinema. My point is, if any injustice is happening in any corner of the world, I have to speak against it as a global citizen, but it's not right to question my identity as an Indian for that.

● What's your next film on?

The next film will be set in British Bengal, but it will be about a different kind of freedom. It's a period drama set in the 1930s, but the focus will not be on the freedom struggle. It's a tale of two women during that time, trying to keep the household together while also trying to get a taste of liberation.

● When will *Song of Forgotten Trees* release in India?

We will take a little time before releasing it here. We have already Celluloid Dreams on board to take it to other global film festivals of repute.

STAGE ABLAZE

Bengaluru lit up as Armaan Malik took to stage on Saturday, mesmerising the crowd with an unforgettable live performance at Phoenix Marketcity, Mahadevapura

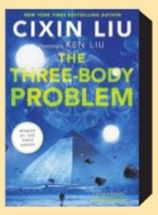
CITY READ

Acrobatic pizza champion to headline hotel event

Shangri-La Bengaluru is celebrating a decade of hospitality with a special culinary event featuring Pasqualino Barbasso, two-time World Acrobatic Pizza Champion. Known for his dough-tossing performances, chef Barbasso will bring Sicilian tradition and creativity to the city. Guests at Caprese, Level 18, can enjoy artisanal pizzas such as Sapori di Bosco, King Sea and Bolero, paired with fine wines and cocktails from September 17 to 21. Lunch and dinner are priced ₹1,495++ onwards.

ISHA
HEARING CLINIC
Silence to Sound
HEARING LOSS?
WE CAN HELP
FREE HEARING TRIAL & CONSULTATION
Don't Ignore Hearing Loss. Treat Before it's Too Late
Invisible
Wireless
Rechargeable
Support & Optimization from anywhere
First 10 Customers get 30% Flat Discount on all the Hearing Aids
Timing: 10.00 am to 7.00 pm
ISHA HEARING CLINIC
Rajajinagar: #79/A, 2nd Block, 19th Main, 22nd Cross, Rajajinagar, Bengaluru 560 010. Ph: 080 29912212 M:86604 97089/ 78922 56216
Vijayanagar: #49, CHBS 2nd Stage, Next to Sarvodaya National Public School, Nagarbhavi Main Road, Vijayanagar, Bangalore 560 040. Ph: 080 23300077
M: 90192 38032/ 88610 19302/ 91132 55575
Email: ishahearingclinic@gmail.com

BOOK NOOK

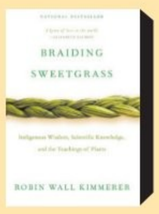


The Three-Body Problem
by Cixin Liu

A groundbreaking science fiction epic blending astrophysics, philosophy, and politics. Set against China's Cultural Revolution, it reimagines humanity's first contact with alien intelligence.

The Memory Police
by Yoko Ogawa

On an unnamed island, objects and the memories tied to them vanish mysteriously. A surreal and unsettling tale about memory, loss, and state control.



Braiding Sweetgrass
by Robin Wall Kimmerer

A botanist and member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation blends Indigenous wisdom, scientific knowledge, and personal memoir to show how we can live in reciprocity with the Earth.

Small Things Like These
by Claire Keegan

Bill Furlong, a coal merchant and family man faces into his busiest season in 1985. Bill makes a discovery which forces him to confront both his past and the silences of a town controlled by the church.

CULTURAL CURIOSITY

A participant at Scripted Dialogues: A Calligraphic Conversation, a travelling exhibition exploring Indo-French heritage, performs at Alliance Francaise, Vasanth Nagar | **SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA**

QUICKFIX

MADHURA CHAPATI

Contributed by **Rehana,** Bengaluru

INGREDIENTS

- **Wheat flour:** 1 cup
- **Water:** As needed for dough
- **Sugar:** 3 to 4 tbsp (adjust to taste)
- **A pinch of salt**
- **Ghee or oil:** 1 tbsp

METHOD

- In a bowl, mix wheat flour, sugar, and a pinch of salt.
- Add ghee and mix well until crumbly.
- Gradually add water and knead into a soft dough. Rest for 10–15 minutes.
- Roll out small balls of dough into thin chapatis.
- Cook on a hot tawa until golden spots appear on both sides, applying ghee if desired.

FITBIT

CALORIE CYCLING: A SMARTER WAY TO MANAGE CALORIES

DR VIVEK ARORA

The expert is a senior veterinarian, Crown Vet, Delhi.

The idea of calorie deficit is simple – to lose weight, you must consume fewer calories than you burn. While this makes sense on paper, sticking to a strict daily target can feel rigid and overwhelming. Real life involves dinners with friends, celebrations and unexpected cravings. Constant calculations around every meal can leave you feeling frustrated rather than motivated. That's where calorie cycling comes in. This is a more flexible approach that gives you room to balance lower and higher calorie days, while still meeting your overall goals.

WHAT IS CALORIE CYCLING?

Calorie cycling is the practice of alternating between higher and lower calorie days while keeping your total weekly intake within a set limit. Research suggests it can:

- Support weight loss
- Reduce hunger
- Prevent some of the hormonal and metabolic slowdowns that often accompany dieting.

In essence, it makes sticking to your calorie goals easier and more sustainable.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

Take the example of someone aiming for 1,400 calories a day to stay in deficit. Over a week, that adds up to 9,800 calories. Instead of hitting exactly 1,400 daily, calorie cycling allows flexibility. If you overshoot on one day, you can balance it out by reducing intake the next day, as long as the total for the week remains the same.

This perspective shifts the focus from perfection every day to consistency over time.

SIMPLE APPROACHES TO START WITH

Higher calories on workout days: Since your body burns more energy on training days, eating more on those days and less on rest days can be beneficial. This not only fuels workouts but also aids recovery and muscle building.

Higher calories on weekends:

Many people struggle with dietary discipline on weekends. By saving up calories during the week, you can enjoy meals out or small indulgences without guilt. This approach works well if your weekdays follow a more structured routine.

WHAT TO KEEP IN MIND:

Flexibility does not mean eating anything as long as it fits the numbers. The quality of calories matters just as much as the quantity. To ensure balanced nutrition:

- Aim for portions of fruits and vegetables daily
- Choose whole grains over refined ones
- Prioritise fibre from plant-based foods
- Watch portion sizes and eat mindfully
- Include high-quality proteins across meals

THE TAKEAWAY

Calorie cycling can make weight management less restrictive and more practical. The key is to nourish your body with wholesome foods while being mindful of overall intake, helping you stay consistent without feeling deprived.

By Madhura Paroolkar, nutrition expert, cult — a fitness and wellness platform

ASK AN XPERT

Can dogs be given out of season vegetables as well? I have heard beetroot is good for dogs but they are out of season now

Dogs can safely consume out-of-season vegetables, including beetroot, provided they are fresh, properly prepared, and free from additives. Beetroot is a nutritious option, offering dietary fibre, antioxidants, and essential vitamins that support overall health. If fresh beetroot is unavailable, frozen or store-bought alternatives may be used, as long as they do not contain added salt, seasonings, or preservatives. Vegetables should be cooked or steamed to aid digestion and served in moderation. Introduce new foods gradually and monitor for any gastrointestinal disturbances. For dogs with pre-existing health conditions, dietary changes should always be discussed with your veterinarian beforehand.

EXPRESS CONNECT

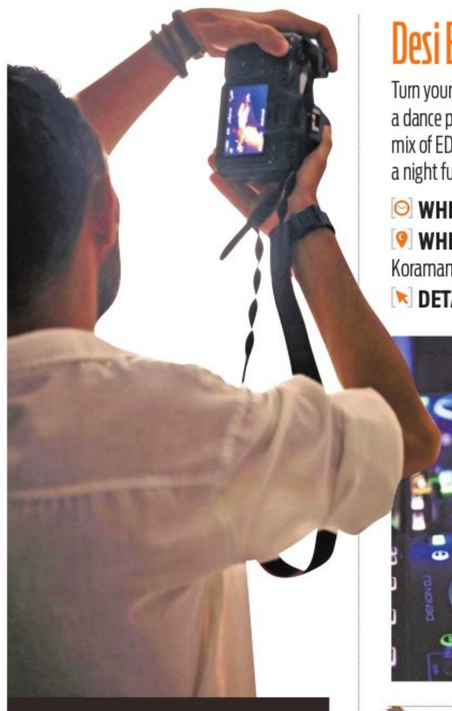
HAVE A RECIPE OR ART WORK TO SHARE, OR A QUESTION TO ASK?

@XpressBengaluru/@tniefeatures

bengalurucityexpress@gmail.com

@xpress_bengaluru

WHATWHENWHYWHERE



Desi Beats

Turn your Monday into a dance party. Groove to an eclectic mix of EDM with Indian beats for a night full of rhythm and energy.

WHEN: September 15, 7pm
WHERE: Happy Brew, Koramangala
DETAILS: highape.com

Just Joking!

Kickstart your week with laughter! Catch Gaurav Gupta live with his standup solo that promises to brighten up your Monday evening.

WHEN: September 15, 6pm
WHERE: The Comedy Theatre, Indiranagar
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

Puzzle Play

Enjoy a relaxed, off-screen evening in a social setting. Piece together beautiful images, try puzzles from new and exciting brands and test your skills with speed puzzling or puzzle chess.

WHEN: September 15, 6.30pm
WHERE: Underline Center, Domlur
DETAILS: district.in

Strike A Pose

Immerse yourself in a photoshoot experience that offers a range of settings designed to suit different occasions. Take your friends along and make use of the curated spaces arranged to enhance your photography session.

WHEN: September 15, 5am onwards
WHERE: Elements Bangalore, Kanakapura Road
DETAILS: townscript.com

Foodie Fiesta

Beat the Monday blues with good food and great company. Enjoy 50 per cent off on all food all day, perfect for a fun outing with friends.

WHEN: September 15, 12pm onwards
WHERE: K-OS The GameBar, Koramangala
DETAILS: highape.com

Fitness Zone

Strengthen your body and mind with expert-led karate coaching. Build confidence, discipline and self-defense skills in a safe and motivating environment.

WHEN: September 15, 5pm
WHERE: Flowternity Multi Sport Facility, Kalkere
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

Sunset Vibes

Unwind at golden hour. Sip refreshing cocktails, sway to lively beats and enjoy terrace vibes as the day melts into night. The event promises a perfect mix of relaxation and celebration.

WHEN: September 15, 5.30pm | **WHERE:** Helen's Place, Marathahalli | **DETAILS:** district.in

ARTCORNER

MADE IN MADURAI

Iruvan Karunakaran paints a picture of a street in Madurai, the artist's hometown

COCOA CAMEOS

With International Chocolate Day having been celebrated recently, let's walk through movies that feature chocolate recipes in poignant ways

DIYA MARIA GEORGE

RAINDROPS on roses and whiskers on kittens might be Maria von Trapp's favourite things, but with International Chocolate Day having been celebrated recently, honouring the birthday of Milton S Hershey, the founder of The Hershey Chocolate Company, we ought to admit that there is a far more universal comfort, chocolate.

On screen, it has served as a symbol of indulgence, temptation, love, rebellion, revenge, and even survival. Where roses wilt and kittens grow, chocolate remains an unshakable constant, melting its way into the fictional land and into us.

Here are the films that have seamlessly woven chocolate into their spines.

The Chocolate War (1988): Teen rebellion meets fundraising candy. Selling chocolates becomes the battleground for a kid who refuses to play along.

Hot Chocolate (1992): A made-for-TV rom-com about buying a French truffle company.

Chocolat (2000): A mysterious chocolatier opens a chocolate shop during Lent and uses truffles to tempt a straight-laced French town into pleasure.

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory (2005): Tim Burton's Wonka runs the world's most bizarre chocolate factory where candy is the map to childhood wonder (and moral lessons).

Romantics Anonymous (2010): Two shy chocolatiers bumbling toward love prove that haute ganache and awkward flirting are a perfect match.

Dripping in Chocolate (2012): A detective follows a chocolate wrapper to a chocolatier as candies become clues in a murder mystery.

Chocolate Pieces (2017): A short about family and inheritance set around a chocolate shop.

Easter Under Wraps (2019): Hallmark's Easter caper about undercover work at a family chocolate company.

Love, Romance & Chocolate (2019): A Hallmark trip to Belgium where pralines, pastry contests, and cobbled streets spark predictable but cosy romance.

Mr Mistake's Belgian Chocolate (2020): A whimsical short where a bite of Belgian chocolate sends the protagonist teleporting to Belgium — chocolate.

Peace by Chocolate (2021): A Syrian family rebuilds their life in Canada by making artisanal chocolate — cocoa becomes hope and small-business therapy.

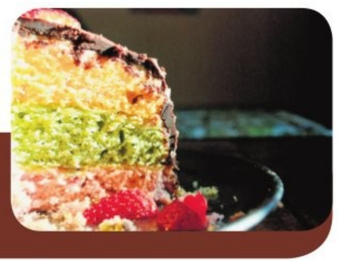
Sweeter Than Chocolate (2023): A Valentine's-day TV romp where a bakery's 'secret' recipe is rumored to be a love-guarantee.

Blood Covered Chocolate (2023): Horror where chocolate-scented gore meets shapeshifters, don't eat the candy unless you like vampires.

Wonka (2023): The origin story of Willy Wonka, chocolate invention, candy dreams, and one man's plan to disrupt the confectionery cartel.

Recipes from the reel world

Joan's Rainbow Cake



(*SALT N' PEPPER*, 2011)

BY SANGEETHA PRIYA (VIA WWW.NITHASKITCHEN.COM)

INGREDIENTS

Base Cake (for each layer)

All purpose flour or cake flour: 1 cup (120g)

Baking powder: 2 tsp (1 ½ tsp for pistachio layer)

Sugar: 1/2 cup (plus 2 tbsp extra for strawberry layer)

Unsalted butter: 4-5 tbsp

Whole egg: 1

Egg white: 1

Yogurt: 2-4 tbsp (adjust for batter consistency)

FLAVOUR VARIATIONS

Strawberry cake: Add 1/3 cup strawberry puree (~225g strawberries), 2 drops red food colour, 1 tsp strawberry or vanilla extract

Pistachio cake: Add 1/2 cup pistachio paste (soaked & ground), 2 drops green food colour, 1 tsp pistachio or vanilla extract

Orange cake: Add 1/3 cup orange juice, 1 tsp orange rind, 2 drops orange food colour, 1/2 tsp orange extract (optional)

WHIPPED CREAM FROSTING

Whipping cream (cold): 400-600ml

Icing sugar: 1/2 cup

Gelatin (optional for stability): 2 tsp (bloomed in cold water)

Fresh fruits: as needed

Salt: a pinch

CHOCOLATE GLAZE

Chocolate: 100-150 g

Heavy cream: 100 ml

METHOD

Preheat the oven to 350°F (175°C). Grease or line three 6" pans.

For each layer, beat butter and sugar until creamy, add eggs, then fold in flour and baking powder alternately with yogurt and the chosen flavour variation.

Pour batter into the pan and bake for 30-35 minutes.

After it cools down, trim the tops so layers are even.

Whip cream in a chilled bowl until soft peaks form. Add icing sugar and beat to stiff peaks. Add gelatin for stability.

Heat cream until warm, pour over chopped chocolate, let it sit for 2 minutes, then stir smooth for the glaze. Let it cool down slightly.

Place orange cake as base with a little cream to hold it. Spread whipped cream. Add pistachio cake, spread cream. Add strawberry cake, spread cream.

Apply a thin crumb coat of cream and let it chill for 1 hour. Frost fully with whipped cream.

Decorate with fresh fruits. Pour chocolate glaze over the cake.

Let it chill at least 2 hours before slicing and serving.

Vianne's Spiced Hot Chocolate

(*CHOCOLAT*, 2000)

INGREDIENTS

Boiling water: 2 cups

Chilli pepper (cut in half with seeds removed): 1

Light cream or whole milk: 5 cups,
Vanilla bean (split lengthwise): 1

Cinnamon sticks: 1-2

Bittersweet chocolate or Mexican chocolate (3 tablets), cut into 1/4-inch pieces: 200g

Sugar or honey (to taste): 2 tbsp

Garnish (optional): Almonds or hazelnuts (ground extra-fine): 1 tbsp

Whipped cream, cinnamon sticks

METHOD

In a large saucepan over medium-high heat, add chill pepper to boiling water.

Cook until liquid is reduced to 1 cup. Remove chili pepper; strain water and set aside.

In a medium saucepan over medium heat, combine cream or milk, vanilla bean and cinnamon stick until bubbles appear around the edge.

Reduce the heat. Add chocolate and sugar or honey, whisking occasionally until chocolate is melted and sugar dissolves.

Turn off the heat, remove vanilla bean and cinnamon stick. Add chilli-infused water, a little at a time.

Serve in small cups or glass mugs and offer ground almonds or hazelnuts and whipped cream. Garnish each serving with a cinnamon stick.

Bruce Bogtrotter's Chocolate Cake

(*MATILDA*, 1996)

INGREDIENTS

Plain flour (*maida*): 225g (1 ¾ cups)

Caster sugar: 350g (1 ¾ cups)

Cocoa powder: 85g (¾ cup)

Baking powder: 1 ½ tsp

Bicarbonate of soda (baking soda): 1 ½ tsp

Eggs: 2

Milk: 250ml (1 cup)

Vegetable oil: 125ml (½ cup)

Vanilla extract: 2 tsp

Boiling water: 250ml (1 cup)

FROSTING

Dark chocolate (melted): 200g

Butter: 200g (1 cup)

Icing sugar: 400g (3 cups)

Milk: 100ml (½ cup)

METHOD

Preheat oven to 180°C. Line and grease two round cake tins.

Mix flour, sugar, cocoa, baking powder and baking soda in a large bowl.

Add eggs, milk, oil and vanilla. Beat until smooth.

Stir in boiling water. The batter should be thin.

Divide into tins and bake 30-35 minutes, until a skewer comes out clean.

Cool completely before frosting.

For frosting, beat butter, icing sugar, and milk until fluffy. Fold in melted chocolate.

Sandwich cakes with frosting, then cover the whole cake generously.

Serve thick slices.

Minny's Chocolate Pie

(*THE HELP*, 2011)

INGREDIENTS

Sugar: 300g (about 1 ½ cups)

Cocoa powder: 3 tbsp

Melted butter: 115g (½ cup)

Eggs (beaten): 2

Evaporated milk: 180ml (¾ cup)

Vanilla extract: 1 tsp

Salt: a pinch

Whipped cream: for serving

HOMEMADE PIE SHELL

All-purpose flour: 1 ¼ cups (150g)

Butter (cold, cubed): ½ cup (115g)

Salt: ¼ tsp

Ice water: 3-4 tbsp

METHOD

Mix flour and salt. Cut in butter until mixture looks like crumbs. Add ice water a little at a time until dough comes together. Wrap and chill for 30 minutes, then roll into a circle to fit a 9-inch pie pan. Prick base with fork before filling.

Preheat oven to 175°C.

Mix sugar, cocoa, melted butter, eggs, milk, vanilla, and salt until smooth.

Pour filling into pie shell.

Bake for 45 minutes, until centre is set but slightly wobbly.

Cool completely. Serve with whipped cream.

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS **CLASSIFIEDS**

PUBLIC NOTICE
CHANGE OF NAME

DECLARATION
I, **DEVARAJ G.N,** aged about 49 years, S/o Late Nanjundappa G.R, R/at No.03, Nanjundappa Building, Bannerghatta Road, 1st Cross, Shankar Nag Road, Bangalore South, Bangalore - 560 083, I affirm and state that my name as **DEVRAJ G.N,** and **DEVARAJ G.N** and **DEVARAJ GOTTIGERE NANJUNDAPPA** one and the same person and i.e. me only, vide affidavit dated 10-09-2025, sworn before notary Pushpavathi B.S, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SYNDHI WILLIAMS** is legally wedded spouse of No.14356457 H, Rank EX HAV WILLIAMS ANTONY presently Residing at No.8/2/10, 3rd C Main, 27th Cross New Extention, Raghavendra Layout, Hulimavu, Bengaluru-560076, have changed my name from **SYNDHI WILLIAMS** to **SYNDHI PAUL WILLIAMS,** vide affidavit dated: 13.09.2025 before notary **S. SAMUEL SOLOMON,** Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Ms. RAKHSHI AFROZ, aged about 25 years, D/o. Afroz Majeed, permanent resident of 504, Sufi Tola Old City, Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh - 243005, Now presently at No.52, 3rd Cross, Shirdi Sai Nagar, K.Narayanapura Main Road, RK Hegde Nagar, Thanisandra, Bangalore - 560077, have declare my name from **RAKSHI AFROZ to RAKHSHI AFROZ** vide affidavit dated: 14.09.2025 before advocate and notary D. Rajanna, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **MANGALA.R** W/o Nagesh, aged about 41 years, and Residing at No.142, Kittaganahalli Village, Bommasandra Industrial Estate, Anekal, Bengaluru - 560 099, have changed my name from **MANGALA** to **MANGALA.R,** vide affidavit dated 12/9/2025 sworn to before Prakasha C Advocate and Notary Bangalore.

DECLARATION
I, **MALA A J,** aged about 43 years, W/o **DEVARAJ G.N,** R/at No.03, Nanjundappa Building, Bannerghatta Road, 1st Cross, Shankar Nag Road, Bangalore South, Bangalore - 560 083, I affirm and state that my name as **MALA** and **MALA A J** and **MALA ANJANAPURA JAYANNA** one and the same person and i.e. me only, vide affidavit dated 09-09-2025, sworn before notary Pushpavathi B.S, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **RANGANATH.C,** S/o Chandrashekar, R/at No.356, G.Shankaramma Nilaya, Near Dargajogihalli Water Tank, Doddaballapura Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, hereby declare that I have changed my Son's name from **PRATEEK.R.K** to **PRATEEK RANGANATH KAVETI.** Vide affidavit dated: 23-07-2025, sworn before Notary S.Nagaraj, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, IMDADULLAH IDHAYADHULLA, Resident of No. 23, 3rd Main, 4th Cross, Someshwaranagar, Jayanagar 1st Block, Bangalore-560011 have changed my name to **IMDADULLAH** vide affidavit dated: 13.09.2025 before advocate and notary Mohammed Hussain .K, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **Mr. VEERANNA HALLAD,** C/O Kalakappa born on 01 JUNE 1987 Residing At: No. 08, 1st Floor, Suggatta Road, Hunasamaranahalli, Bangalore, Karnataka - 562157. have changed my daughter's name from **SANIDHYA** to **SANIDHYA VEERANNA HALLAD,** vide affidavit dated 24/4/2025 sworn to before H Sridhar Rao Advocate and Notary Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **KISHORE. P** resident of No. 36, 11th Cross, Venkatshwara Layout, BTM 1st Stage, Bangalore- 560068, have change my minor Daughter Name from **MOULYAA SAMPADA** to **MOULYAA SAMPADHA ADITHI. K** vide affidavit dated 07.02.2025 before Notary R. Basavaraja, Bangalore. Henceforth she shall be called **MOULYAA SAMPADHA ADITHI. K** only

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **CHIDANANDA R GUDIGAR,** aged about 25 years, residing at No. 51, 3rd Main, 11th Cross, Prashanthanagar, Bangalore-560079, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **CHIDANAND** to **CHIDANANDA R GUDIGAR,** vide affidavit dated 10.09.2025, sworn to before K. Gunde Gowda, Advocate & Notary Public, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I. **TAMANNA,** W/o. Ruchith R Jain, aged about 32 years, residing at No.1175, Wing 1, 17th Floor, Sobha Indraprastha, Near Minerva Mill Compound, Opposite Sujatha Theatre, Rajaji Nagar, Gopalpura, Magadi Road, Bengaluru - 560 023, I declare that **TAMANNA** and **TAMANNA D JAIN** are one and the same and both the names belongs to me only., vide affidavit dated 8/9/2025 sworn to before R Vishwanath Advocate and Notary Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **DEBAPRASAD BHATTACHARYA,** aged about 72 years, S/O Mr. Sibendra Chandra Bhattacharya, (Aadhar No. 878654178870) residing At No. 25, 2nd Cross, HMT Layout, Near Chowdeshwari Bus Stand, Mathikere, Bangalore North, Bengaluru, Karnataka, 560054. I declare that my name is **DEV PRASAD BHATTACHARJEE** AND **DEBAPRASAD BHATTACHARYA** AND **DEBA PRASAD BHATTACHARJEE** "All Three names are belongs to same person", vide affidavit dated 10/9/2025 sworn to before A Manjula Advocate and Notary Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **FREITAS SONALI VICTOR,** aged 38 years, D/o. Victor Freitas, Residing at Ranka Plaza Flat No.403, B-Block, Wheeler Road, Bengaluru North, Fraser Town, Bengaluru-560005, have changed my name to **SONALI FREITAS,** vide affidavit dated: 12.09.2025 before notary **N. NARAYANA SWAMY,** Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **HANEEF MOHAMMED**, S/o. Mohammed Kunju, residing at No. 15, HIG, KHB Colony, 2nd Stage, Basaveshwarnagar, Bangalore-560079, Karnataka, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **HANEEF MOHAMMED MOHIDEEN** to **HANEEF MOHAMMED**, vide affidavit dated 13.09.2025, sworn to before N.K.Lakshmana, Advocate & Notary Public, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **PREM RATHOD** S/o. Sri. Dilip Kumar Jain, aged 20 years, residing at "Suraj Ganga Orchid", 1/2, Flat No.007, First Floor, N.H.S. Diagonal Road, Bhagwan Mahaveer Jain College, V.V. Puram, Basavanagudi P.O., Bengaluru - 576004, have changed my name from **PREM RATHOD JAIN** to **PREM RATHOD,** vide affidavit dated 12/9/2025 sworn to before S Eswara Reddy Advocate and Notary Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **ESWARI H.G.** W/o MAHESWRRAO GAIKWAD HEMANTH GOPAL RAO Residing at No.36C, 1st Cross, 2nd Stage, 9th Block, Vinayaka layout Nagarbhavi Post, Bangalore - 560072. Have changed my minor Daughter's Name from **NIHARIKA HEMANTHA GOPALRAO GAIKWAD** to **NIHARIKA HEMANTH GOPALRAO GAIKWAD** Vide Affidavit Dated 13.09.2025 sworn before Notary A.Manjula Bangalore.

SMARTADS

BANNERAGATTA ROAD
AKSHAYANAGARA 3562 SQ FT A KATHA WEST FACING 12000/- CLASSIC ORCHID LAYOUT 35*45, 4.3 CR
NISAARGA LAYOUT 50*80, 35*60 EAST FACING 5000/-
NANDANAVANA LAYOUT 50*80 WEST FACING A KATHA, 40*60 2 SITES EAST FACING 30*40 WEST FACING B KATHA 3500/- NEGOTIABLE BROCKERS EXCUSE
9449655947

Professional Building Solutions
WATERPROOFING
"WE-FIX" LEAKING
Roof (Terrace), Tank, Sump Bathroom, Tile Joints, Skylight, also Undertake House Painting Tiling, Polishing, Drilling, Grouting, Fabrication, Carpentry & Epoxy Floor Coating.
Call: **MACBOND**
9448572697

Avail MSME Loans Easily
Business owners can now avail MSME loans up to Rs. 1 Crore with just a GST / Udyam Certificate.
- Unsecured loans
- Available for both Existing Businesses & Startups

For details, contact:
7204995189

ARCHITECTURAL & INTERIOR DESIGN
Residential & Commercial Construction Projects, interior projects, Renovations, Complete Turnkey Services.
Contact:
91485 20031

FLAT FOR SALE
Near Ulsoor Lake
3 BHK 2245 sqft
With amenities
servants washroom
2 car parks
OC, East facing 3.8 Cr
Square One Realty
9845291967 / 6364779673

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS GROUP
For Classified Advertisements Contact:
9448689473
9886550650
080-22866893

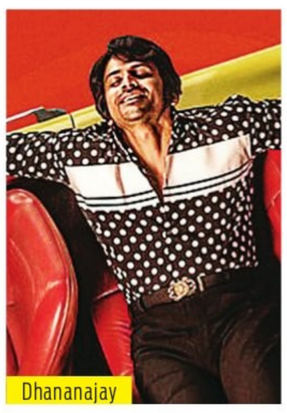
Shivarajkumar and Vaishak J Gowda

666 Operation Dream Theater finds a 100-day home at Kanteerava Studios

Shivarajkumar and Dhananjay return after *Tagaru*, with Hemanth M Rao shaping their ambitious new venture

CE FEATURES

THE much-anticipated *666 Operation Dream Theater* has rolled into its next schedule, and it's happening on a lavish scale. Helmed by filmmaker Hemanth M Rao, the film reunites the *Tagaru* duo — Shivarajkumar and Dhananjaya — a pairing that has doubled audience expectations ever since the project was announced.



Dhananjay

The first schedule, which wrapped recently, saw both stars on set. Now, the team is gearing up for its second phase, with an expansive set erected inside Bengaluru's iconic Kanteerava Studios. This mammoth backdrop will serve as the film's home for nearly 100 shooting days.

When Shivarajkumar walked onto the newly built set, insiders noted a sense of déja vu — evoking memories of Dr. Rajkumar's legendary spy thrillers. The retro-inspired first look poster had already hinted at this nostalgia, with both actors sporting a style that transported fans back in time.

Producer Dr Vaishak J Gowda remained tight-lipped about the details but promised grandeur. "Hemanth and his team are taking care of every detail. We want to create a world that stuns today's generation while transporting the older generation into memory lanes. I can't reveal what the sets are, because that's something audiences should only experience on the big screen. But this film is being mounted on a grand scale."

Backed by Vaishak J Films, *666 Operation Dream Theater* has music by Charan Raj, cinematography by Advaith Gurumurthy, and proeuction design by Vishwas Kashyap.

I wanted something safe to ease back in: AMULYA

The actor opens up on her big-screen return with *Peekaboo*, helmed by Manju Swaraj

Amulya

A SHARADHAA

AMULYA, who is still remembered for her roles from *Cheluvina Chittara* and *Shravani Subramanya*, is stepping back into the spotlight with *Peekaboo*, directed by Manju Swaraj. A special announcement was made by the team on the occasion of her birthday. The actor, who got married at the peak of her career, speaks candidly about her return, her fears, and the journey that brought her here.

"I always knew I would come back," Amulya tells us, adding, "When I decided to get married, it wasn't because I wanted to step away from cinema forever. I just wanted to do it on my terms, and return only after I had fulfilled my family commitments."

Her comeback, however, didn't happen overnight. "Post marriage and children, it took time. I got three to four offers, which were encouraging, of course, but I was looking for something unique," she admits. "I didn't want to do a trial run. I wanted something safe, something that would let me ease back into cinema. *Peekaboo* felt like that, and it offered me a performance-oriented role, with comedy on my side. I am also collaborating with Manju Swaraj, with whom I had previously worked in Shravani Subramanya."

For Amulya, the transition back into films was both exciting and daunting. "Honestly, I am a little scared to face the camera again," she admits. "Even though I've been in front of the camera since a very young age, coming back this time felt new. I had to brush up on everything, right from acting, dance, and even my fitness. It wasn't just physical; I needed to regain my confidence."

Currently, Amulya is a judge on a reality show, which she says has helped her in unexpected ways. "I was always conscious in public. The reality show platform pushed me to open up, to interact more freely. That's made a big difference as I return to films."

The actor reveals that talks for *Peekaboo* had been ongoing for months. "We were in discussions for almost seven months. Finally, we made it official, and shooting will begin on October 2. It felt like the right time, and I couldn't have asked for a better project," she beams.

Her husband (Jagadish) and their children have been supportive of her decision. "My children knew I was going to dance classes, but they got excited when they learnt about my cinema project."

Amulya is clear about her priorities. "I've always been serious about my career. At the same time, I didn't want to compromise on my family. Now, I feel ready to give my hundred per cent again. It's not about proving anything; it's about doing what I love, with the same hunger I had eight years ago," she says.

AMULYA'S ROLE IN *PEEKABOO* IS SOMETHING EVERYONE WILL ENJOY: MANJU SWARAJ

Manju Swaraj, who is awaiting the release of *Sarala Subbarao*, is now preparing for his next directorial with Amulya, titled *Peekaboo*. "This is a family-oriented love story with comedy," says Manju. "Amulya plays a bubbly character, someone who positively looks at life, and brings different shades to it. It's a role and film everyone will enjoy because it celebrates happiness and simple joys." The film will feature music by Veer Samarth and cinematography by Suresh Babu. *Peekaboo* is being produced by Ganesh Kenchamba under Sri Kenchamba Production. Manju shares a personal connection with the producer. "Ganesh was a sound recordist who later stepped into business. We have known each other for a few years. He always wanted to contribute to cinema, and now he is doing it in a bigger way. This collaboration felt natural." Talking about helming Amulya's return to films, Manju says, "Ganesh and I were talking about her comeback and felt it had to be with a feel-good film. That's how *Peekaboo* shaped up."

A still from the film

Mahesh Sidhu to headline action thriller, *Bhaira*

CE FEATURES

THE shooting for the upcoming action thriller, *Bhaira*, began in style, with actor Prem clapping the first shot at the muhurat ceremony. Mahesh Sidhu, known for Goolihatti and Saagutha Doora Doora, returns as the lead after a brief hiatus. Akul N takes on his fourth directorial venture and is writing the story of this action-packed thriller. The film is produced by Amit Poojari under Khushi Kanasu Creations, with Ashok DDN also onboard.

Mahesh Sidhu plays a daring character who fearlessly takes on any challenge, while Shweta Surendra stars as a spirited girl. The supporting cast includes Jack Jalijali, Yash Shetty, Ravi Kale, Vardhan, Sampath Kumar, Cockroach Sudhi, B Chandradhar, Veena Shetty, and several others.

Set against the backdrop of Silicon City, *Bhaira* explores the underbelly of urban life, showing how a naive young man is targeted, exploited for political gains, and pushed to his limits. The film also features a tender love story and emotional mother-son moments. Most of the film will be shot across Bengaluru, including Kalasipalya and Okalipuram.

The music is composed by Manju Mahadev, with lyrics by Bharjari Chetan, Aniruddha Shastri, and Nagarjuna Sharma. Cinematography is handled by S Halesh, editing by K M Prakash, and stunts by Vikram Mor and Vinod.

HONEST INTENTIONS, LOST IN TRANSLATION

A SHARADHAA

KANNADA cinema has occasionally paused its mainstream diversions to reflect on one of the state's most pressing realities—the decline of government schools. Rishab Shetty's Sa Hi Pra Shaale Kasaragodu (2018) is one example that examines the politics of language and the vulnerability of children stuck in the crossfire. Interestingly, the title *Guri* itself carries cinematic history; it was once the name of a Dr Rajkumar film. Now, director Selvam Mathappan, who is also the cinematographer, reuses the name to tell a different story, one rooted in a rural classroom. Drawing inspiration from the true incident of a school reopening in Kuppalli near Kolar, the film situates itself in the soil of Theralli Hill and dares to ask: what happens to a village when its school is left to fade away?

The premise is simple yet urgent. A lone classroom stands with 16 students, guided by a teacher (Achyuth Kumar) who is more than just a custodian of knowledge. He is also a caretaker, disciplinarian, and the moral compass. Achyuth Kumar, one of Kannada cinema's most versatile performers, sheds his usual theatricality for a performance that is stripped down, steady, and quietly moving. His portrayal reminds us that the dignity of a teacher lies not in grandeur but in persistence.

The children carry the film's emotional pulse. Brothers Subbu (Mahanidhi Sai Tej) and Madesha (Jivith Bhushan) symbolise both promise and burden through their bright minds shackled by a difficult home. Their father, played by Ugramm Manju, is initially drawn as the stereotypical villain of rural melodramas—alcoholic, gambler, and indifferent — and yet, he resists typecasting, surprising us with a gradual, believable transformation into a parent seeking redemption. Jayashree S Raj, as the mother, shoulders the quiet strength of a woman who has seen more battles than she speaks of.

GURI

Director: Selvam Mathappan

Cast: Mahanidhi Sai Tej, Jivith Bhushan, Achyuth Kumar, Ugramm Manju, Jayashree S Raj, Avinash, and T S Nagabharana

RATING 2.5/5

The film's central conflict, the dwindling student numbers, reflects a real crisis. By law, government schools need at least 12 students to remain functional. Many villages, seduced by the promise of English-medium private institutions, fail to keep up. When the children of Kuppalli realise their school might shut down, their decision to march to Bengaluru and plead with the Chief Minister (TS Nagabharana) becomes both dramatic and symbolic.

The film detours into a convoluted organ-smuggling subplot, a move that seeks to heighten tension but instead feels at odds with the grounded struggles of the first half. These diversions risk trivialising the very core; education as survival. Where the narrative shines is in its quieter registers: the community huddling to keep the school alive, the teacher's modest victories, and the children's play that hides anxiety about the future.

The latter half introduces a media head (Avinash), whose intervention shifts the balance of power. The climax, where the Chief Minister decrees that a school may reopen even for a single student, lands as a powerful political and emotional statement; one that redeems some of the film's narrative indulgences.

Technically, the film is functional rather than striking. The rural setting is captured with sincerity, but the lack of visual flair undercuts the gravity of the theme. Still, the performances—particularly Achyuth Kumar and Ugramm Manju—lift the narrative beyond its uneven writing.

Guri ultimately belongs to the same conversation as those films that spotlight government schools. *Guri* can also be seen as a children's film, with students themselves emerging as the true protagonists of the narrative. It may stumble in execution, but its intent is unmissable. At its best, it reminds us that these modest institutions once shaped generations of leaders and thinkers. At its weakest, it slips into melodrama and unnecessary detours.

As a critical text, *Guri* is not flawless cinema. But it is an important reminder, especially at a time when rural schools face extinction, that education is not merely a right; it is a fight, often led by children and teachers who refuse to let the classroom die.

Team *Brat* drops latest track *Gangi Gangi*; release date out

Baalu Belagundi

CE FEATURES

THE buzz around Krishna's *Brat* just got louder with the release of its latest track, 'Gangi Gangi'. Sung by Baalu Belagundi and Indu Nagaraj, with music by Arjun Janya, the song was unveiled in front of thousands of fans recently. The catchy number perfectly blends energy, melody, and folk-inspired lyrics.

Baalu Belagundi, who penned the lyrics, shared, "I started with folk songs and later got this opportunity through Arjun Janya. I'm grateful to the director and producers for trusting me with this song."

Darling Krishna praised the team, saying, "Baalu Belagundi's lyrics and vocals combined with Arjun Janya's music are magical. The song brings a fresh energy to *Brat* and showcases our chemistry with the director Shashank."

Director Shashank adds, "*Brat* is an action-thriller with a heart. Gangi Gangi adds a fun, lively layer that fans will enjoy." The sentiment was shared by actor Manisha Kandkur, who is making her debut with *Brat*. Talking about the song, she says, "*Gangi Gangi* is fantastic, and it really complements my character of a middle-class girle."

Produced by Manjunath Kandkur, the film is set for a multilingual release on November 14. The cinematography is handled by Abhilash Kalathi.

A still from the film